

How to Grow Sativas Indoors

HIGH TIMES

August 439

Oliver Stone

On Pot, Politics & His New Movie Savages

100,000-Watt Grow Op

Buds and Bulbs in B.C.

Cannabis in Colombia

Weed Farming in a War Zone

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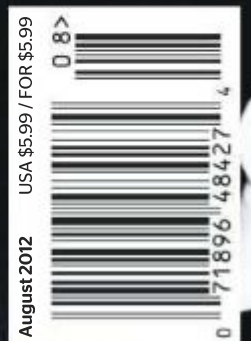


The 10th Annual
Doobie Awards

Die Antwoord's
Smokeout

Pot, Inc.
Inside the
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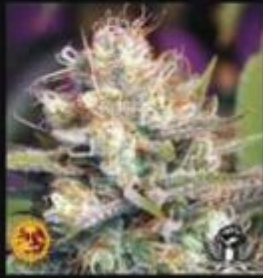
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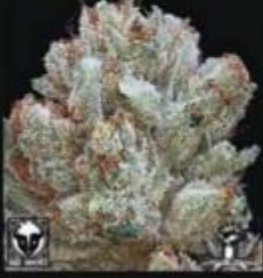
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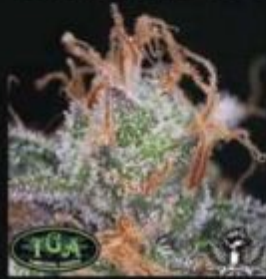
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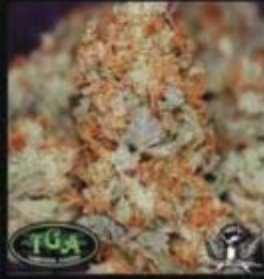
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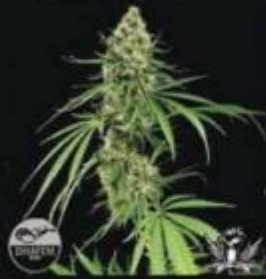
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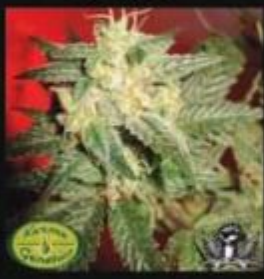
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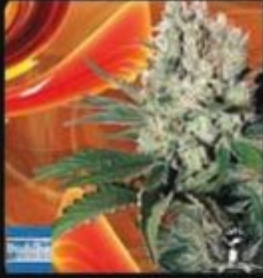
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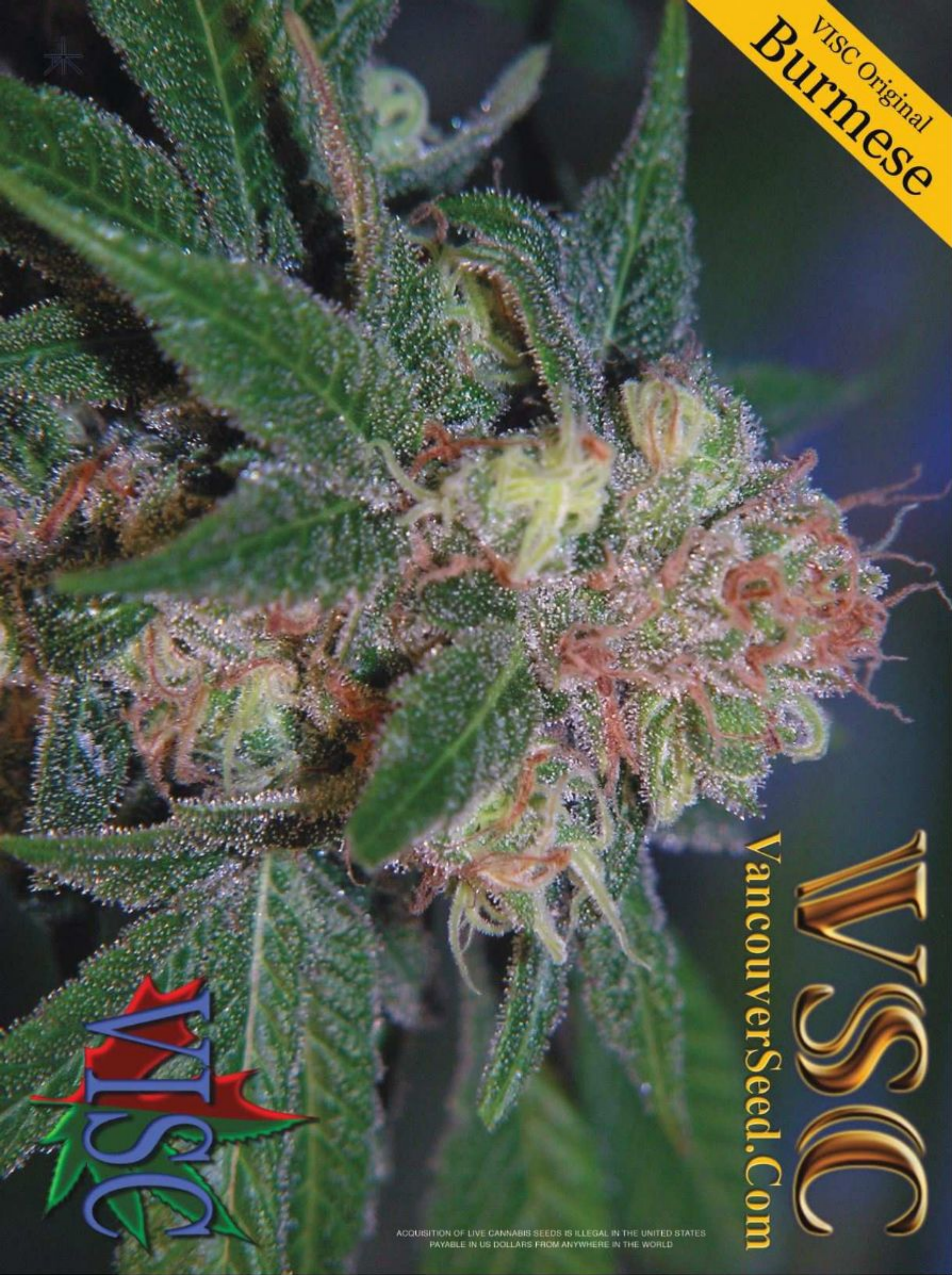


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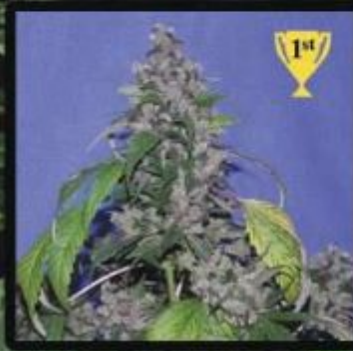
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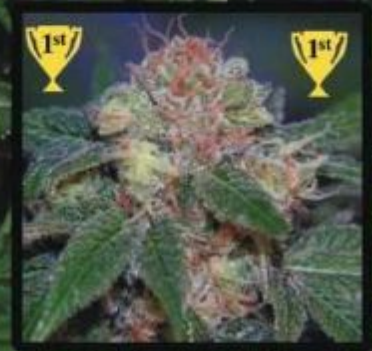
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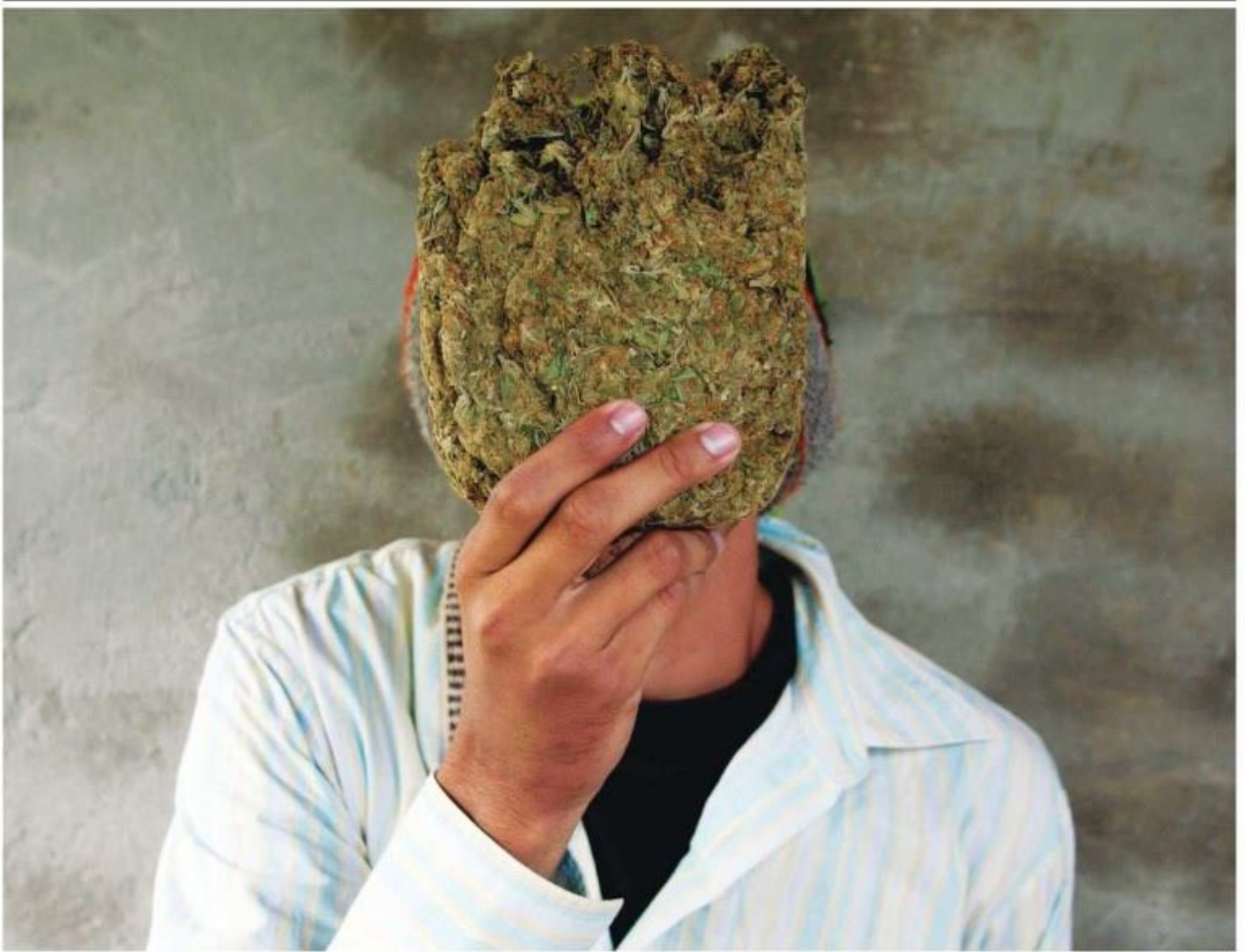
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HIGH TIMES AUGUST



“If I sell five hands of bananas, they give me 7,000 pesos. And if I don’t sell them, I have to throw them away. Marijuana is different. The buyers come here, they pay cash and leave without asking any questions.”

—*The Cannabis Of Cauca, Page 78*

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The legendary director talks about pot, the War on Drugs, *Savages* and *The Untold History of the United States*. *By Chris Simunek*



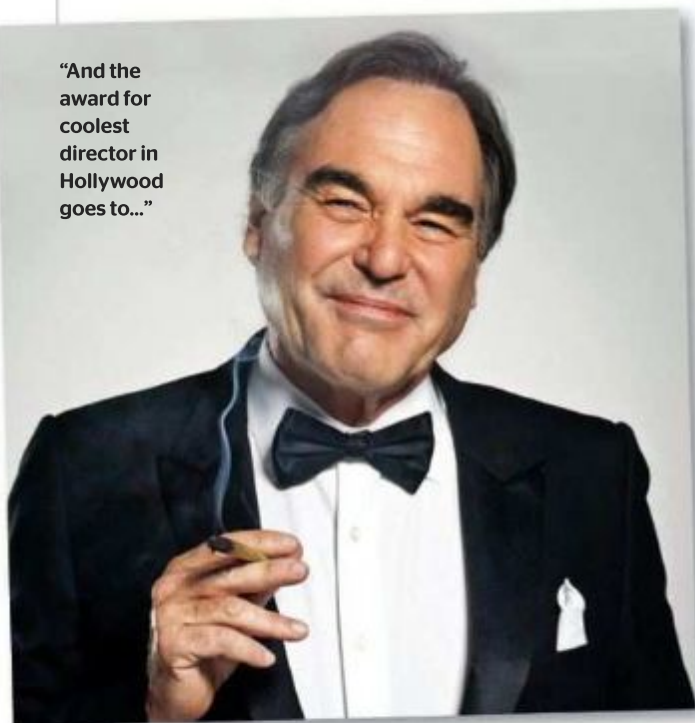
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You, Me and Oliver Stone

WE SET UP our cover shoot in Santa Monica on a promise from Oliver Stone's people that the three-time Academy Award-winning director was "willing to get a little crazy" for *High Times*. I wasn't too sure what that meant, but I figured an L-bow of DNA Genetics' Holy Grail Kush would cover us in the lunacy department.

"And the award for coolest director in Hollywood goes to..."



But how do you ask one of the most famous directors in American cinema if he wants to pose with pot? I started in with some spiel about how we were willing to "work within his comfort level zone" during the shoot, but he shrugged his shoulders and said, "I'll smoke a joint"—as though it were nothing.

And that's the thing: It *is* nothing, and at the same time, it's a little crazy. If you're reading this, chances are you

already know that smoking a joint is an activity that should be no more illegal than drinking a glass of wine. You know it, I know it, Oliver Stone knows it. And yet, according to the FBI's Annual Uniform Crime Report, 853,838 people were arrested last year for marijuana offences—and despite tons of clinical evidence to the contrary, cannabis remains a Schedule I drug, meaning the federal government continues to insist that it has a "high potential for abuse" and "no currently accepted medical use." On top of that, there are still millions of people out there who believe that society must be protected from folks like you, me and Oliver Stone, who derive pleasure from rolling a few spliffs out of a fat sack of Kush.

And that's *crazy*.

We applaud Oliver Stone for showing the same sort of courage in his support for the marijuana cause that he's shown with so many other issues, past and present. *High Times* has always championed the rebel with a cause, and when people of Mr. Stone's renown speak up (and smoke up) in the public sector, it exposes one more chink in the armor of idiocy that protects the status quo.

Sincerely,

Chris Simunek
Editor-In-Chief

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Respect for Richard

Richard Lee of Oaksterdam University is right: It's time for young people to step up and take charge. He's done a great job and has helped the cannabis legalization movement in many important ways, and now it's time for new fighters to carry us into the future. Richard Lee should take pride in how much he's accomplished, despite what happened recently. Hopefully, a new general (and new soldiers) will fill the void, with new ideals and new ways to get things done.

Good luck, Mr. Lee, in whatever you do, and thank you for all your efforts. I'm proud to be able to say that you gave us all hope! Thank you very much.

Jane

It's a sad day in America when the citizens of this great nation let DEA and IRS thugs ruin someone like Richard Lee, a modern cannabis visionary and a good, honorable man. Lee has put his reputation and his livelihood at risk so that others can have a better life through the use of this amazing plant. He shall forever be remembered in the Ganja Hall of Fame. Richard Lee, I salute you. Godspeed!

Cannabis Citizen

My Main Med

I want to share my story: I am 36 and have had over 50 major operations. I was born crippled with two holes in my heart that were not detected until the age of six. As a result, I have lived with constant pain. I used to party with Mary Jane but never used her medicinally (though I said for years that I'd rather smoke a bowl than drink a six-pack). I also took breaks from marijuana until my hip replacement last year, when I found that the only way I felt better was to use it! No more Tylenol or Celebrex for me—now, the only time I can move freely is by using marijuana.

Jeff from NE

Teens & Pot

In response to Paul Armentano's "Teenagers Wise Up" (May '12 HT): Teens are smarter than we give them credit for. Their one big handicap is that they're immature and inexperienced in life—but that doesn't mean they aren't smart enough to read about pot or comprehend the risks that other drugs present. No one ever died from smoking weed. If you ask me, the War on Drugs should really be waged against tobacco.

Mike



I took breaks from marijuana until my hip replacement last year, when I found that the only way I felt better was to use it!

Greg is Great

The Greg Green article, "Breaking Down the Medicinal Values of *Sativas*," in your May 2012 issue was awesome. That guy knows so much; I hope to see lots more of him! Nico Escondido rules, too! I wanna see more Greg Green and more Nico. Keep up the good work, and thanks!

Bud G.

Snack Well!

For your information, I have found that the best snack food—by far—to eat while stoned is two Almond Windmill Cookies by Lil' Dutch Maid with some Kraft's Jet-Puffed Marshmallow Creme smeared in between. Thank you.

Joe

We appreciate this critical information.

Anxious for Info

I'm sure this topic has been discussed in *High Times* before, but is there any information about smoking and getting really bad anxiety, including the feeling that you're going to die? I've dealt with this off and on, so I was just wondering if there were any resources available.

Ian G.

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hightimes.com

We'd need a lot more information to answer your question, but here goes.

It's not unusual for novice pot smokers to experience paranoia. But, assuming that you're an experienced pot smoker, perhaps preexisting worries become amplified when you get high. There's also the possibility that the strain you're smoking is too potent for everyday use. Try smoking when conditions are optimum for you—when you're relaxed and at peace with yourself.

HT Medical Cup in Colorado

Great event, lots of like-minded peeps enjoying our freedoms without harming others. Loved it!

T.S.

We appreciate winning the Best Hybrid Medical Cup for Skunkberry. Our dispensary handed out thousands of coupons for one dollar Skunkberry joints. So, if you got one at the event come and get

it—a Cup winner for a buck! Incredible competition. Saw and smoked a lot of incredible meds. CO has got it going on!

I LOVE this job! Thanks and praises!

Green Man Cannabis

Homeland Insecurity

Thanks for the article on Homeland Security ("Feel Secure Yet?" June '12 HT). I am a big fan of *infowars.com* and a big fan of *High Times*. I did not know that about the DHS seal and the agency's explanation that it will "perform government functions differently." Hopefully, your article will wake up some folks. Thanks!

Worried

Boulder Un-Protest

What a waste of taxpayer money hiring all those cops to stop the 4/20 CU, Boulder protest, and for what? They didn't stop anything that would cause anybody any harm. Why don't those cops go and stop real crimes? They should be out looking for violent criminals, not peaceful protesters. Next year I hope everyone returns to Boulder for the Smokeout.

B.B.



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Tyler Campbell

Marissa Heiniger
girlsgonewood

Alexander Bruszt

GORKIN CORMICAN

ryan burden

Clazina Van Anel

Ollie Cohen

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BEE LINE

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**Contact
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OLIVER STONE "If we legalized drugs and took the profit out of the marijuana, cocaine and heroin business, it would be an interesting relocation of world assets. Some people would say that the money supply in the banks—the liquidity—would dry up right away. I don't know enough about banking, but it would be very interesting to see the dislocations that would happen now if we were to go back the other way." *Photo by Mark Mann*









August 2012 **High Times**

FLOWER TOWERS Deep in the mountains of the department of Cauca in Colombia, a peasant woman tends to her crop of skyscraping pot plants. The THC content is not high and an arroba—a bale of 1.4 pounds sells for less than \$100. But the income represents survival in this rugged, war-plagued region. Read more about “The Cannabis of Cauca” on page 78. *Photo by Carlos Villalon*

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**Contact
High**

Contact High

DOOBIE AWARDS California's reefer rapper Real One shows off his award for Best Activist Artist (as well as his sexy stoner girls) at the 10th Annual Doobie Awards in Austin this March. He was among many other performers who took home the smokeable trophies crafted for us by Hitman Glass. For more on this year's party and winners turn to page 54. Photo by Miss Shela

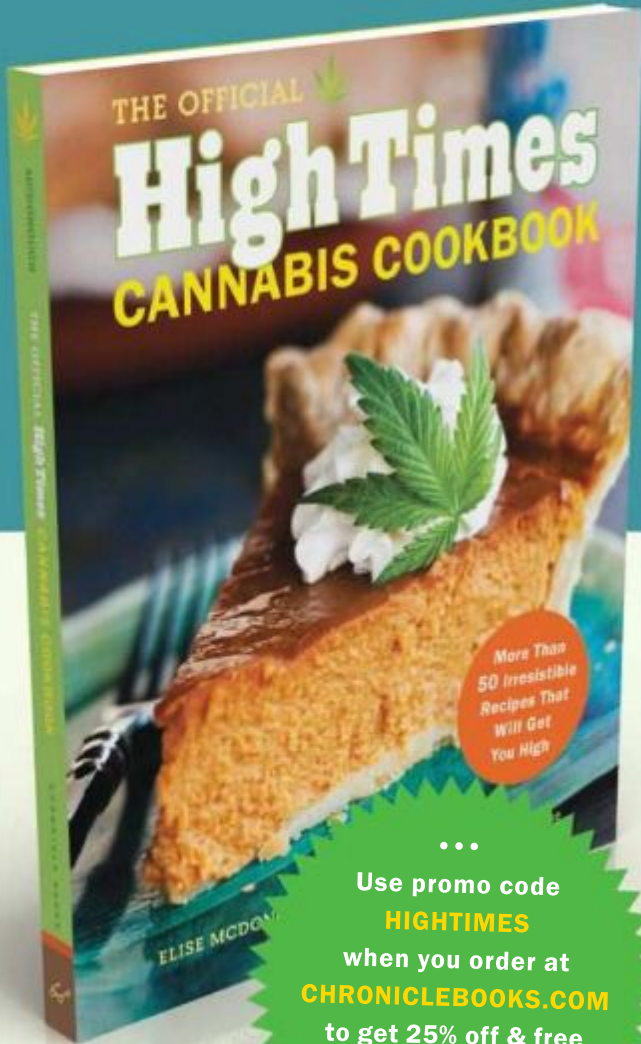




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Highwitness News

Snoop hits SXSW and wows the crowd with a dank performance.



Update Amsterdam Update

Will tourists be allowed in the coffee shops? p.24



Food Kind Veggie Burritos

Go south of the border and soar sky-high! p. 38



New initiatives are pushing for legal pot for everyone.



garden—as well as weaving conspiracy theories about the Bay Area’s monopolization of the state’s legalized cannabis trade, more details are available online at rad-r.us/420salad.

It’s difficult to tell how much impact these groups had in Prop. 19’s heart-breakingly slim 3.5 percent electoral defeat. The “Emerald Triangle” counties (Humboldt, Mendocino and Trinity), where marijuana growing dominates the local economy, voted down Prop. 19 at rates equal to or greater than the statewide vote. Los Angeles County, where dispensaries

RESISTANCE IN OUR RANKS

Opponents of legalized-pot initiatives may be marijuana users you know! *By Russ Belville*

In 2010, Oaksterdam University founder Richard Lee sank \$1.5 million into getting marijuana legalization on the ballot in California for the first time in 28 years. California’s Proposition 19 marked the first time such a reform initiative made the ballot without funding from any of the so-called “big three” philanthropist billionaires who have supported marijuana law reform: George Soros, Peter Lewis and John Sperling. However, Prop. 19 fell short on election day, garnering just 46.5 percent of the vote. While the usual contingent of police departments, prison guards, parents’

groups and prohibition pimps fell in line to denounce legalization, an unexpected special interest group joined them: several medical marijuana dispensaries, clinics, doctors, growers and patients.

As the summer of 2010 unfolded, some medical marijuana businesses mounted a vocal opposition effort to Prop. 19 and even produced anti-19 propaganda that was distributed with every transaction. Owners of dispensaries like MediCann, the Canny Bus and CannaCare were all over the media, denouncing the limits proposed by the initiative—“only” an ounce and a 25-square-foot personal

are supposedly as ubiquitous as Starbucks, also voted no, but at 52 percent (versus the statewide “no” vote of 53.5 percent). Greater support among California’s estimated 1.25 million medical marijuana patients may not have swung an election lost by some 689,000 votes, but it may have helped win a few more counties.

Now the legalization action has moved to Colorado, where the Regulate Marijuana Like Alcohol (RMLA) campaign has already qualified for the 2012 ballot as Amendment 64. The RMLA initiative would legalize possession of up to an ounce and home cultivation of up to six plants, plus allow a system of wholesale cultivation and retail distribution for every adult in the state age 21 and older. Yet despite its similarity to the current medical marijuana program, once again patients’ groups are organizing to defeat it.

« Amendment 64 “will be Prop. 19 all over again,” says Kathleen Chippi of the Patient Caregiver Rights Litigation Project, “and we will help kill it with smiles on our faces. It is better to have *nothing* different rather than have shit language screw with patients, caregivers and voters in general for years to come.”

The primary opponents of RMLA include the Cannabis Therapy Institute, headed by patient advocate Laura Kriho, which is currently pushing for another reform initiative that would legalize personal marijuana use without limits for every adult age 18 and older. The website for this initiative labels RMLA “fake legalization” that would make it “impossible for anyone but the very rich to participate in Colorado’s highly-regulated cannabis industry (oligopoly).”

Thus far, these efforts seem focused only on tearing down the RMLA initiative, which is backed by NORML, the Marijuana Policy Project, the Drug Policy Alliance, Sensible Colorado and the Denver-based SAFER. Furthermore, as of press time, they had just begun gathering signatures.

Meanwhile, Washington’s Initiative 502 has also qualified for a statewide vote in 2012. It lacks the “home grow” provision of Colorado’s Amendment 64, but would otherwise legalize possession

A brand-new, entrenched special interest group has emerged—one that benefits from the status quo of medical exceptions to pot prohibition.

of up to an ounce and permit a system of wholesale cultivation and retail distribution for all adults 21 and over. However, I-502 also contains a controversial *per se* DUID (driving under the influence of drugs) provision for marijuana that has no foundation in science, which has given the anti-legalization patients’ groups a powerful platform for scaremongering. (So-called “*per se*” laws strictly forbid the presence of any prohibited substance in a person’s body while operating a motor vehicle, whether or not there’s evidence of impairment—a particularly unfair burden for cannabis consumers, given how long THC byproducts remain at trace levels in the body.)

According to Steve Sarich, writing in *Northwest Leaf*, a free monthly distributed at the Seattle (Medical) Cannabis Farmers Market: “I-502 destroys the rights of patients [and] takes away our right to drive ... [Every] medical cannabis patient will be illegal when they get behind the wheel.” Sarich adds that if you’re a dispensary owner, “you’ll be required to get a license and sell \$600 an ounce pot.”

Says one I-502 organizer in response: “It’s sad when the only registered, organized and funded opposition to our campaign isn’t cops or parents’ groups—it’s medical marijuana dispensaries!”

The lesson to be learned here is that a brand-new, entrenched special interest group has emerged—one that benefits from the status quo of medical exceptions to pot prohibition—and future campaigns will have to take this “Patients Against (Certain Types of) Legalization” phenomenon into account.

In the ashes of Prop. 19, five different groups formed to get “true legalization” on the California ballot in 2012. None received any significant funding or gathered enough signatures. As a result, no legalization initiative will appear on the statewide ballot this year, and Californians can now only witness the efforts of Coloradoans and Washingtonians as they try to legalize marijuana first—despite the opposition of some people who can already smoke pot legally for medicinal purposes. ✨

HIGH FIVE

Bad Cops

Whatcha gonna do when they come for you? Get rid of your pot!



Howard Jordan

Oakland (CA) Chief of Police
Could Jordan have screwed up any more than he did on April 2? His officers assisted federal agents in raiding Oaksterdam University, leaving them unavailable to deal with a massacre at nearby Oikos University that left seven people dead. The killer was captured a few hours later while Oakland cops helped the Feds confiscate Oaksterdam’s legal medicine and private files.



Joe Arpaio

Maricopa County (AZ) Sheriff
As “America’s Toughest Sheriff” Arpaio has put inmates in “Tent Cities” and reinstated chain gangs. But he’s just another hypocrite with a badge: His officers smuggled drugs and laundered money for a Mexican cartel—and one even got pregnant by a cartel lieutenant! The Feds are now suing Arpaio for violating Latinos’ rights as part of his “crackdown” on illegal immigrants.



Leonard Gallo

East Haven (CT) Police Chief
Gallo was forced to “retire” after the Feds arrested four of his officers for allegedly racially profiling and abusing Latino residents. But Gallo seems to have had a soulmate in East Haven Mayor Joseph Maturo, who—when asked what he’d do for the Latino community in light of the scandal—joked: “I might have tacos when I get home.” That must’ve done wonders for race relations.



Gary Yabuta

Maui (HI) Chief of Police
Hawaii’s had legal medical marijuana since 2000, but Chief Yabuta has been an ardent opponent for years. Even so, is it possible that Yabuta’s officers have something better to do with their time than passing out anti-marijuana flyers in the parking lot of Walmart? Yabuta says, “[Pot] is contradictory to character building, job skills, academics”—and everything else under the Sun.



Anthony Colarusso

Dover (NH) Police Chief
Colarusso wants to keep medical marijuana out of New Hampshire, claiming that a medical bill passed by the State Senate is a “foot in the door” for legal pot. (Of course, if pot was legal, it would free him up to deal with actual crimes.) He worries that medical pot would be sold on the black market, like prescription drugs currently are. Here’s an idea: Do something, instead of bitching about medical pot.



Smoke DZA

RUGBY THOMPSON

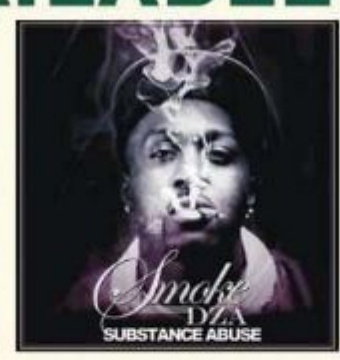
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SURF'S UP

When you come across a post-harvest heap of marijuana stalks in the wilderness, what should you do? Go surfing! Last fall in Northern California, a hiking stoner who makes surfboards stumbled upon a pile of potential ingredients for a one-of-a-kind board. His particular specialty happens to be the *alaia*, a thin, round-nosed, square-tailed surfboard about seven to 12 feet long that was used in pre-20th Century Hawaii. After he whittled the pot stalks down, glued the board together and added a glaze, an exceptional *alaia* emerged. Obviously, the best rides come at high tide!

Snoopworld

At the recent South by Southwest (SXSW) music conference in Austin, TX, a special VIP party was hosted by *Maxim* Magazine and Doritos, who were introducing their new “Jacked” variety chips. When Snoop Dogg took the stage (erected inside of a 56-foot-tall vending machine), the over-capacity crowd roared. Snoop proceeded to sing about, talk about and toked up weed onstage throughout his entire performance, which included our Doobie-winning Pot Song of The Year “Young, Wild & Free” by his protégé Wiz Khalifa. Naturally, the audience blazed up prodigiously. Luckily, there were enough free chips around to satisfy everyone’s munchies.



STONER STEREOTYPES

Our highly skilled researchers delineate the distinct types of pot smokers.

STONER TYPE	POSSESSION	BEHAVIOR	SIDE EFFECTS
Hippie	Has a lot or none at all; there's no middle ground here.	Tells you why everything you're doing is destroying the planet.	A craving for granola.
Closet Stoner	Always has weed—but won't admit it.	Paranoid as hell. Uses air freshener by the gallon.	Rush of optimism. Wants to tell the world they toked—'til the high wears off.
Coquette	Plenty of guys will share pot for a chance to “get busy.” They never will.	Loses her princess crown temporarily.	Munchies in this case means nothing more than a few celery sticks.
Hipster	Never. Spends everything on vinyl albums.	Smokes your stash and yammers about their most recent vinyl purchase or their new hip 'hood.	Feels a sudden urge to dance to indie-pop. Kill us now!
Geek	None. Spending money on action figures is more important.	Hits on a woman for the first time ever.	A lecture on why <i>Star Wars</i> is better than <i>Star Trek</i> —or vice versa.
Jock	Usually not. Popular enough to mooch. Or they just take it.	Temporary lack of aggression. Gives up the ego for a couple of hours.	Endless babble on why he was good enough to play in the pros.
Right-Winger	If they have some, report them to the GOP immediately!	Either quotes Ayn Rand or has an epiphany and embraces humanity.	Considers going vegetarian or admits that Obama isn't the Antichrist.
Yuppie	Always reminds you of the superiority of their stash to yours.	Forgets about their credit rating for the duration of the high.	Considers giving up the materialistic lifestyle for a desert commune.
Parent	Probably can't afford it. Usually only dreams about getting high.	Overjoyed to be doing something not involving the kids, or begins missing them instantly.	Shows you 200 cellphone shots of their pride and joy.

PIGS AT THE TROUGH

Stacy Knutson, a waitress in Moorhead, MN, was on her late-night shift at the Fryn' Pan restaurant when she noticed a takeout food container left behind by a customer. Knutson ran out to the parking lot and attempted to return it, but the woman told her to keep it as a tip. Knutson discovered \$12,000 in rolled-up bills.

She called the local police. At first, she was promised that she'd get the money back if no one claimed it after 60 days. But somehow, over that time period, the cops decided that it “smelled like marijuana,” so they labeled it “drug money” and told the waitress they would continue to hang onto it as part of their “ongoing investigation.” Knutson went to court, and a judge instructed the police to give her back the cash. With five children to support on a waitressing job, Knutson could use that money much more than the greedy cops in Moorhead.

HIGH DRIVERS, LOW INSURANCE

Want to reduce your auto-insurance rates? Break out the bong!

A new article on the New York-based insurance website *AutoInsuranceQuote.org* highlights a number of studies substantiating the notion that pot smokers are flat-out safer behind the wheel than alcohol drinkers. The research shows that drinkers drive faster and more aggressively and tend to take more risks despite the fact that their driving skills have been impaired. Conversely, pot smokers tend to drive slower and more safely and to consciously avoid risky behavior. Of course, another contributing factor is pot's illegality; smokers are less likely to get behind the wheel in the first place because they're often getting high in the privacy of their own homes, whereas booze is frequently consumed in public places to which people have to drive. The study concludes that pot users can expect to pay lower insurance rates than non-smokers—let alone drinkers—because stoners have superior accident responsibility and driving safety rates.



The high road may mean lower costs for drivers.

Pot Patient zero

And here you thought those crumbs of pot you found between the couch cushions were old: Dutch archaeologists excavating a 4,200-year-old gravesite near the town of Hattemerbroek, in the Netherlands' largest province of

Gelderland, discovered a substantial amount of pollen assumed to derive from cannabis. If so, this would establish the use of marijuana in Europe a thousand years earlier than previously



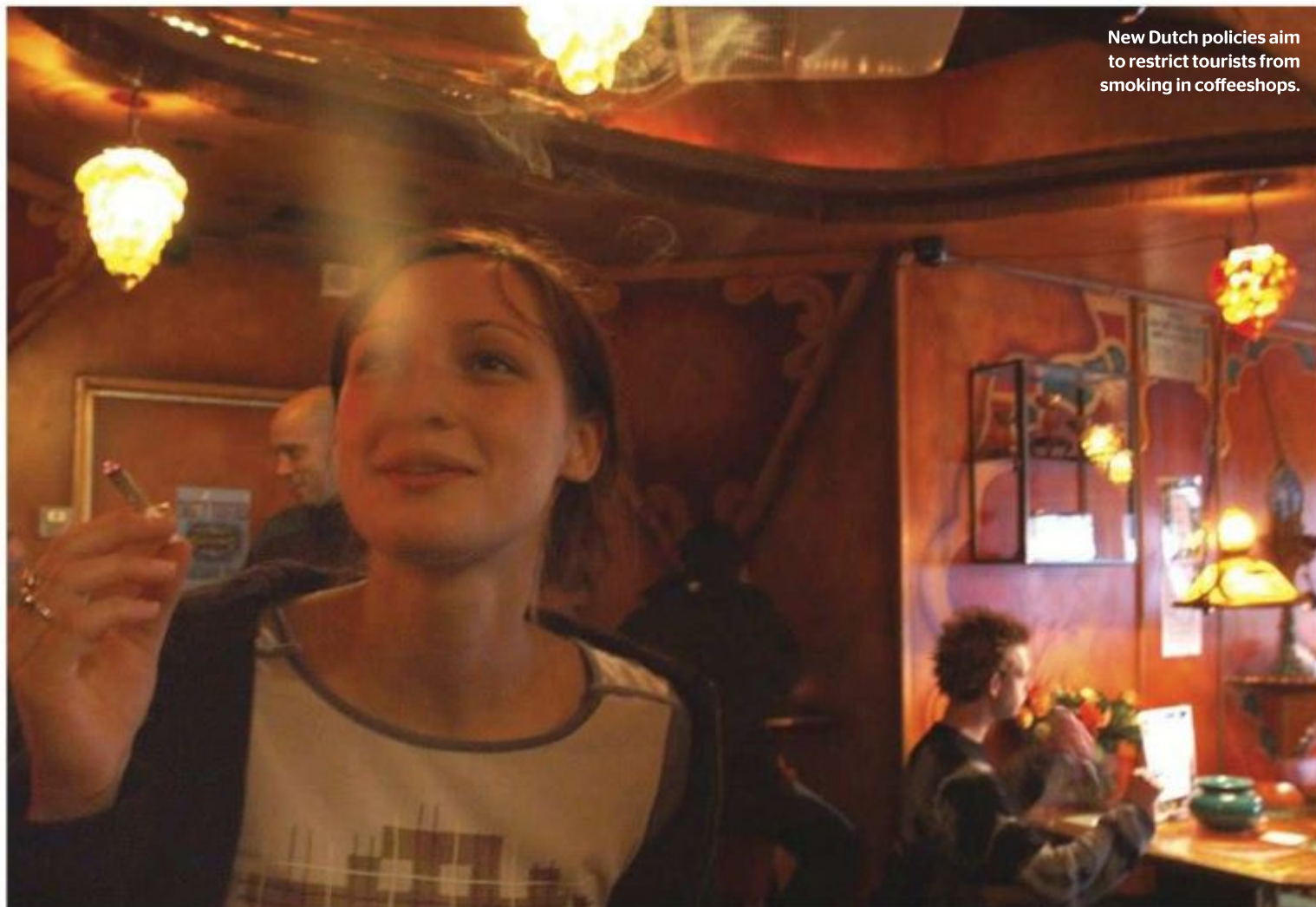
thought. Some researchers have concluded that the pot was utilized as a painkiller because of the additional discovery in the grave of meadow-sweet flowers,

another medicinal plant. (Meadowsweet contains chemicals used to make modern-day aspirin.)

Leave it to the Dutch to be eternally ahead of the curve when it comes to using cannabis in all the ways it was intended to be. Truth be told, humankind is regressing: Medical marijuana patients never had to worry about prosecution 4,000 years ago.

POT TOURISM UNDER FIRE

After 35 years, the coffeeshop scene of Amsterdam is threatened.



New Dutch policies aim to restrict tourists from smoking in coffeeshops.

In something of a “what the hell are they thinking?” move, the Dutch government is proceeding with shutting coffeeshop doors to tourists after allowing them to smoke in their country for more than 30 years. With so much of the economy revolving around tourists who specifically visit the Netherlands to smoke openly in the shops—a well honored pastime—the new policies are poised to be an economic death sentence.

Consider these two stats: Each year almost half a million Americans go to a coffeeshop while in Amsterdam—and 10 percent of *all* tourists who visit Holland cite coffeeshops as their number one reason for a visit. Regardless of statistics or demand, the Dutch coffeeshops will close to all tourists.

The Netherlands originally established their renowned coffeeshops in the 1970s as part of an effort to combat hard drug use by tolerating marijuana (which remains

10 percent of all tourists who visit Holland cite coffeeshops as their number one reason for a visit.

technically illegal). Despite the collapse of the conservative coalition government on April 23, 2012, policies were put into effect banning tourists from coffeeshops in the country’s southern provinces beginning May 1. Amsterdam will say goodbye to the tolerated operations beginning January 2013.

The new laws force coffeeshops to operate as private clubs where Dutch residents,

18 or older, unwillingly are required to hand over private information (name, address and a photo) to appear on a club ID card.

Named the *wietpass* or

“weed pass,” each coffeeshop caps membership around 2,000. The new law has already taken effect in Maastricht, a town which borders both Germany and Belgium, in an effort to crack down

on drug trafficking across borders. Shops have already complained that membership limits have been reached and supply can’t keep up with the outpouring of demand.

During the next few months, elections will be held and the Dutch will have the opportunity to vote a more cannabis-friendly government into power. Until then, *High Times* continues to plan the 25th High Times Cannabis Cup in Amsterdam—a tradition that brings everyone together to smoke and celebrate the best cannabis in the world. *Jen Bernstein*



Say Goodbye To ...

SMOKING POT IN PUBLIC: Dutch citizens must smoke in the privacy of their homes or as members of coffeeshops. **STRONG STRAINS:** A ban will limit the selling of cannabis with 15% or stronger THC.

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ZEF JAM

South Africa's Die Antwoord tell the truth about Durban Poison, modern-day hip-hop and who they'd rather tour with: Lady Gaga or Celine Dion. *By Justin Hampton*

As most Stateside zef wannabes know, the Internet-fueled success of South African rave-rap outfit Die Antwoord has been a long time coming. Frontman Ninja, a.k.a. Watkin Tudor Jones, began his career in the weed-oriented trio The Original Evergreens in the 1990s, later spinning off his rap persona into a host of alter egos, from the motivational-speaker satire Constructus Corporation to Max Normal. Yet it was with the relatively straightforward Die Antwoord that Ninja finally caught the world's eye—especially after their “Enter the Ninja” video went viral and came to the attention of various geek-culture tastemakers. Die Antwoord's appearance at Coachella showed that they were more than just some ephemeral meme of the month, and Interscope's US release of their first LP, *\$O\$*, soon followed. However, Die Antwoord's relationship with their label quickly soured after the release of the single “Fok Julle Naaiers,” causing the group to release their follow-up album, *Ten\$ion*, on their own Zef label. Just before taking off on a US tour, Ninja and co-conspirator Yo-Landi Vi\$\$er stopped by the *High Times* office to realize yet another longstanding dream and to give us a glimpse of the fantasy that is their day-to-day. We should all be so lucky.

So how's the weed in South Africa? Most people in the States know about Durban Poison ...

Ninja: That shit is weak—it's a fucking fantasy. That shit is not strong *at all*; [just the name] sounds cool. Like when Snoop came to South Africa, he's like, “Yo, I want some Durban Poison!” And then he's like, “Uh, okay.” So it's not that good.

What's good to smoke out Cape Town, then? Can you enlighten me?

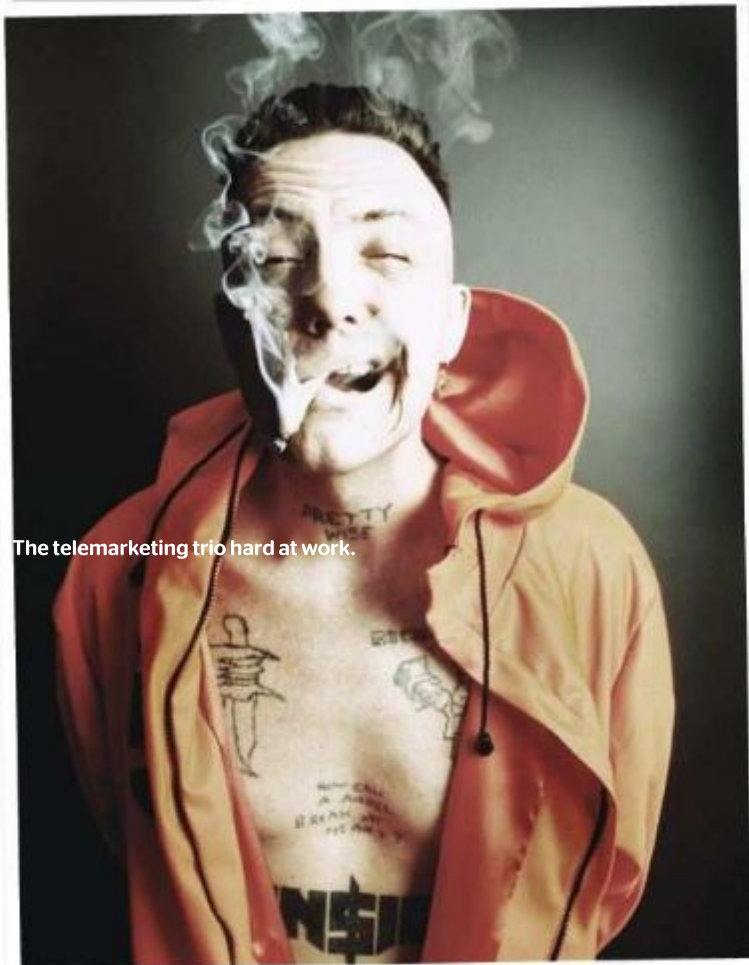
NINJA: Yeah—Malawi. It's like a weird weed; it's called “Malawi cob,” and then it's like brown, and it's kind of a sneaky weed. They pick it and then they put it in like a corncob

milli, they call it, and then they bury it underground for a while and ...

YO-LANDI: For like three weeks.

NINJA: You have to bury it, and then you take it out—you dig it out and you undo the cob and then you smoke the weed inside. It's kind of sneaky, because you don't think anything happened, and you lie down and it's like a chill-out one; it's not like *active*. But the weed in South Africa [isn't] like the weed in America at all. We don't have the technology. It's like Third World weed, you know?

Tell me about The Original Evergreens, your first band.



The telemarketing trio hard at work.



From what I understand, they were supposed to be a South African version of Cypress Hill.

NINJA: I used to be into rap music since I was like 14, and I was listening to Cypress Hill. I used to worship Cypress Hill, and I didn't really know anything then—I was a bit too obsessed with Cypress Hill. I tried to sound exactly like B-Real for the vocals for years, because I couldn't get away from how *ill* he sounded. So we used to smoke and listen to Cypress Hill, and that's how we started learning how to rap, 'cause I was kind of nervous in front of everyone—I would totally smoke a bong until I couldn't walk, hardly. We were in this group called The Original Evergreens, but it was just kind of a silly band. Howard Marks, he did a documentary, and he used the song called "Puff the Magic" [for] the soundtrack.

We actually used an Evergreens lyric on the *Ten\$ion* album [in "Zefside Zol"]: "I

get a cold bottle beer, crack it open / Down a whole bottle beer with a toke-it / Take the empty bottle beer, smash it broken / I stuff the neck full of dope, then I smoke it / Puff the smoke up my nose like a dragon / And I puff that magic and I drag on / I smoke-a the weed and I get-a the high / Now I'm like a-red in the eye."

So how did you get involved in hip-hop, Yo-Landi?

YO-LANDI: I went to Ninja's training camp five years ago. He trained me. And that's how I got into it.

Did you ever think you would do hip-hop?

YO-LANDI: I love rap—I think it's the shit! We used to listen to a lot of the early Eminem. And I like O' Dirty Bastard; he's my favorite rapper.

Ninja, you've spun off a lot of different personas aside from your current one: the Constructus Corporation, Max Normal ... Where do those come from?

"I would totally smoke a bong until I couldn't walk, hardly."

NINJA: I'm like a bit of a schizophrenic—I don't know what's going on a lot of the time, and I get confused. I was trying to work out who the fuck I was [back then]. So I was fucking with all different types of rap. Like, I was in a gang, like: "Yeah, I'm in this fucking gang, and my motherfuckers, they're just indestructible." And then all the fucking rappers got wack; everyone just fucking *boring*, dude. So after the fucking experimental shit—*really* experimental, 'cause I was feeling myself—then I was into Dr. Octagon. It was like, I was taking acid when I was listening to him; I was very inspired by that tactic. So I was off to find another dimension that you were not previously aware of.

You mention on the new LP's "Fatty Boom Boom" that modern hip-hop is "one big inbred fuckfest" ...

YO-LANDI: You want to hear something funny? You know that chick, Lady Gaga? She offered us to tour with her, and you know what she said? "That would seriously fuck up our cool." [Laughs] 'Cause you didn't know *what* we're gonna say ...

NINJA: And a lot of other people asked us, but the only person we wanna rock with—and, dude, I'm being really fucking serious; can you hear me loud and clear, my man?—*Celine Dion*.

That's right! I heard you were going to have her sing backup.

NINJA: No, she's gonna do the *lead!* Where's your respect, boy? 🌿

Watch Die Antwoord's smokeout here:

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SLIP ON THE BLACK BANANAS

Rad Times for a road-tested combo. By John Payne



Frontwoman Jennifer Herrema doesn't smoke the peels.

Call it opposition rock: *Rad Times Xpress IV* by Black Bananas is an electro-metal-punk-pop-dub-psych-soft-rock mélange, waxing dense and chaotic with sonic screech. The band, which blew out of the ashes of singer Jennifer Herrema's RTX—which, in turn, had segued out of her blues-rock-metal-skewering Royal Trux—already has a vanload of experience recycling pop culture garbage, so now it's time to up their game.

"It seemed like we had taken it one step further than RTX and might as well rechristen the project," Herrema says. "It's kinda like you're a senior and not a freshman anymore. Renaming the band makes it easier for people to remember it."

Recorded in a Huntington Beach, CA, studio not far from Herrema's fave surfing spot, *Rad Times* is a concept album of sorts, wherein the pop culture trash gets dumped out, jumbled around in novel combinations and kickbooted back into the smog. With "Hot

Stupid," for example, you get a mysterious admixture of electro and headbanger rock fitted out with twining '70s Heart/Boston guitars. Heavily riffing ditties like "Foxy Playground" and "My House" flare their long hair aggressively, while "TV Trouble" and "Acid Song" bubble over with '70s pop-rock guitars—the Eagles

"Indica speeds me up, and sativa mellows me out."

and "Brother Louie" vying for attention—and "Do It" sports shades of the Gap Band's "You Dropped a Bomb on Me."

All these bizarre blends rarely give you a clear sense of where the band is coming from, which is a good thing—but sweat it not, says Herrema, because Black Bananas is just making "future sounds for the future party."

"It's like melding a lot of influences and not having them just sound retro; making it into something that becomes a whole in and of

itself and defines something new. Then again, it all goes back to watching TV," she adds with a laugh. "It's always on, like white noise—a weird kind of static."

A significant portion of the approximately three tons of pop-rubbish DNA compressed into *Rad Times* finds its source in the funky stuff Herrema absorbed while growing up in southeast Washington, DC.

"There were no white people anywhere near where I lived," she recalls. "I was surrounded by the Junk Yard Band, Experience Unlimited, Rare Essence; that's what you would hear all day, every day. Curtis Blow and Chuck Brown—yeah, Chuck Brown was fuckin' dope, too. It was just *all* the freaky funk masters."

And now it can be told: Jennifer Herrema smokes pot.

"Yeah, it's just something different," she says. "Sometimes it gives me a lot of energy. *Indica* speeds me up, and *sativa* mellows me out. Instead of drinking coffee, I'll just smoke some weed, and I'll get some kind of clarity and go about my business.

"I've been smoking since I was 13 ... then I stopped, 'cause it made me withdrawn and kind of paranoid, and I do not like looking for black helicopters and shit. But four or five years ago, I was smoking weed with a friend, and it totally worked—it was that same fresh, eye-opening experience. It was awesome, and it's still awesome to this day." ✨



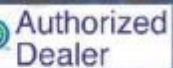
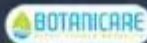
ON A POSSIBLE BANANA SUPERGROUP

Jennifer Herrema: "Lil Wayne has a song called 'Black Bananas,' too. We oughta collaborate, that'd be the fuckin' shit. When that kind of stuff is ready, shit comes to you in the right time."

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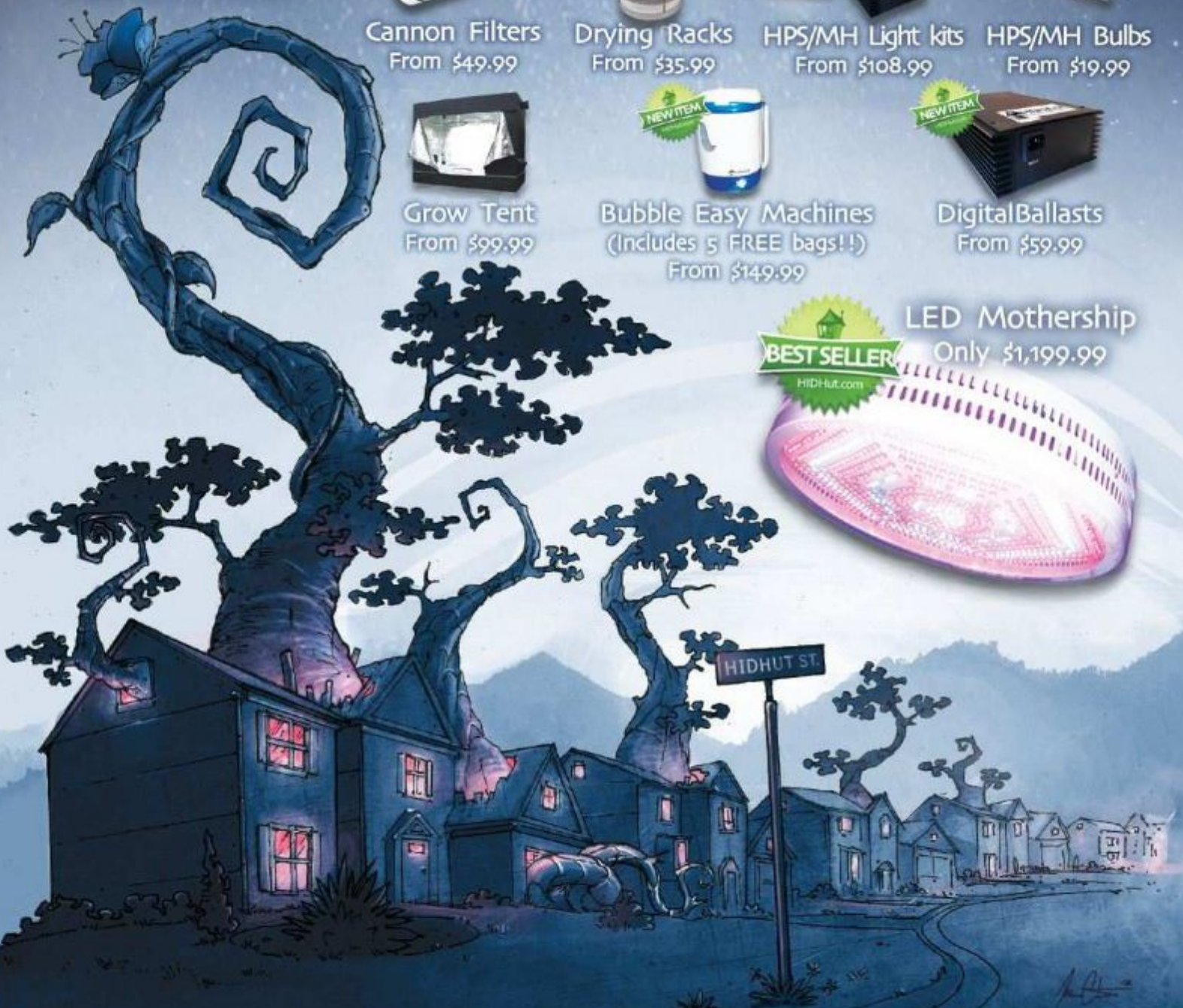
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UNSIGNED BAND
OF THE MONTH:

Only Living Boy

Fueled by the stunning brokenness of life, Only Living Boy offer an authentic and poignant experience through a distinctive rock sound. The trio's style is a combination of '70s vinyl and the alternative rock of their own MTV adolescence, rounded out with bits of jam, blues, punk and reggae.

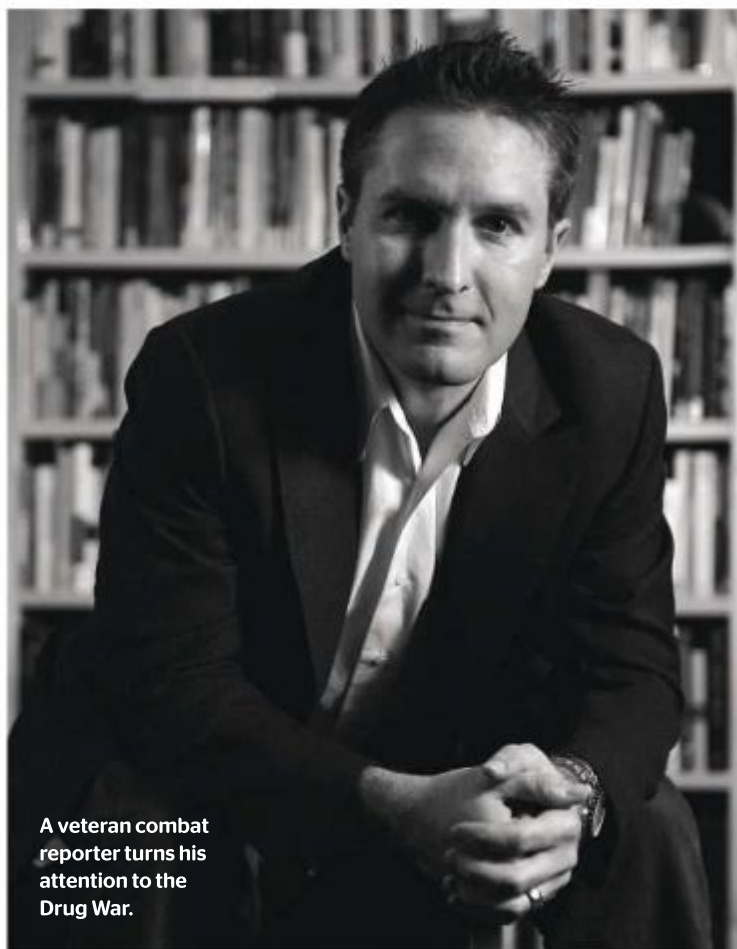
Named after Paul Simon's "The Only Living Boy in New York" but possessed of a newfound motivation and newly evolved sound, Only Living Boy recorded their



provocative self-titled debut soon after coming together and released it in August 2008. The album gained national attention through reviews, interviews and airplay in large radio markets, both terrestrial and online.

Through several years of constant national touring, the band has developed a ravenous grassroots fanbase that only continues to grow. Look for their new full-length album *Hide Nothing*, coming soon, as well as their seven-inch single "Sunny Day Man," available now.

For more information, including audio samples and tour dates, visit hightimes.com/onlylivingboy.



A veteran combat reporter turns his attention to the Drug War.



government's ongoing War on Marijuana.

"It didn't occur to me until after I'd already started, but by cultivating those plants, I was risking a military invasion of my home," he observed.

And although *Pot, Inc.* carefully traces the history of medical marijuana in the United States from its earliest roots to its current "growing pains," Campbell says he initially came to the subject from a "middle-of-the-road" perspective. Despite some experimentation in his past, the author was not a recreational pot smoker and had no need for medical cannabis, either. But he nonetheless found himself fascinated by the birth of what he now calls "America's most outlaw industry."

There were also some interesting parallels with his previous work.

"*Blood Diamonds* had to do with an underground black market in a commodity that was moved from place to place through smuggling channels in order to enrich ruthless organizations engaged in nefarious deeds," Campbell said. "And so there's a very direct parallel, at least when it comes to marijuana smuggled across the border from Mexico."

As an antidote to that awful status quo, Campbell says he'll be enthusiastically backing Amendment 64, a voter initiative on the November 2012 ballot that would legalize marijuana for all adults in Colorado.

"We're the first state in the nation to set up a retail, for-profit system for the distri-

bution of a federally prohibited drug, and by and large it's working just fine. Society hasn't melted down; there's no gun battles between rival dispensary owners. And basically, a lot of the fears that the opponents raised just haven't been borne out." *David Bienenstock*

BUD DIAMONDS

Pot, Inc. covers Colorado's rapidly emerging medical marijuana industry.

When Greg Campbell, the author of *Blood Diamonds*, decided to take an in-depth, book-length look at America's highly misunderstood medical marijuana industry, he not only set out to interview patients, growers and providers, he also decided to join their ranks—first by signing up for Colorado's groundbreaking medical marijuana program, then by setting up a six-plant grow op in his own suburban basement.

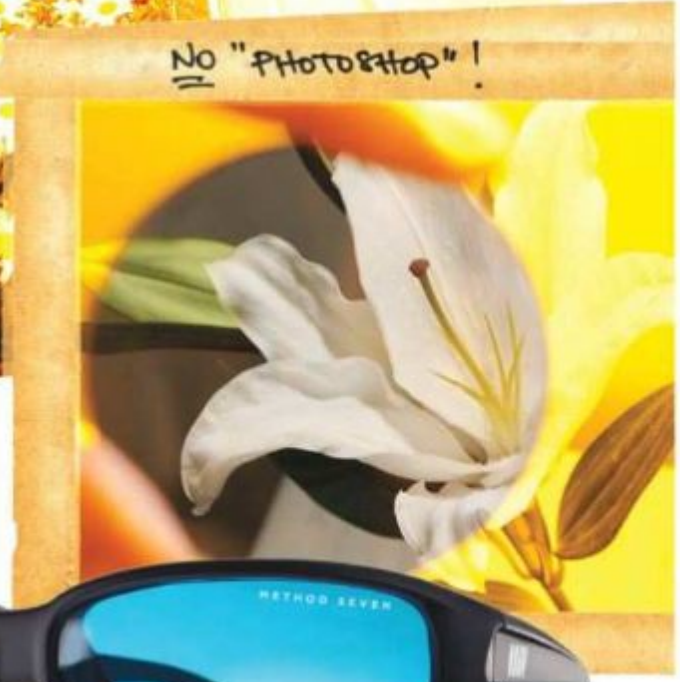
"I really like to get my hands dirty when it comes to investigative reporting," Campbell told *High Times*. "I learned that a successful marijuana grower doesn't need to be a master horticulturalist. But to truly achieve the plant's full medical potential *does* require an awful lot of due diligence."

A longtime war correspondent used to reporting from far-flung corners of the earth, Campbell recalled the moment he realized that his tiny, state-legal growroom officially made him an enemy combatant in the federal

"Society hasn't melted down; there's no gun battles between rival dispensary owners. A lot of the fears that the opponents raised just haven't been borne out."



METHOD SEVEN



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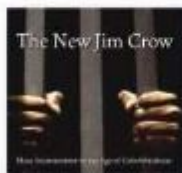


As of 2012, Black Americans account for 40 percent of the US prison population.

AMERICA'S LONGEST WAR

The War on Drugs continues as a war on the Black community.

Two striking street scenes frame Michelle Alexander's courageous exposé of the War on Drugs. In the first, it's Election Day 2008; Alexander sees a handcuffed black man on his knees surrounded by cops. The author, an Ohio State law professor and former ACLU attorney, says she wondered what Obama's victory would mean for African-Americans in the 'hood. In the second, just as she's about to board a bus, Alexander sees a bright poster proclaiming "The Drug War Is the New Jim Crow." "Yeah, that's crazy," she tells herself—but after amassing the evidence, she does a mental 180 and concludes that the Drug War is, in fact, today's streamlined version of yesterday's discrimination.



The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness

By Michelle Alexander
(The New Press)

In *The New Jim Crow*, Alexander analyzes Supreme Court cases, presents statistics about sentencing, and unmasks cops, judges and prosecutors who have deprived and denied citizens of their constitutional rights. Then, too, she shows that when it comes to drugs and African-Americans, Barack Obama has proved to be no different than Reagan, Clinton and the two Bushes.

Alexander's call to arms offers evidence of racial profiling, blatant prejudice in state and federal courts and an ongoing vendetta against African-Americans arrested for possession of piddling amounts of crack and weed.

Alexander rails against the inhumanity of the law without wallowing in rage or sinking into despair. No wonder that in Cornel West's foreword, he calls *The New Jim Crow* "the secular Bible for a new social movement." *Jonah Raskin*

MUSIC RECOMMENDATIONS



Nick Waterhouse
Time's All Gone
(Innovative Leisure)

Calling Nick Waterhouse "old-school" does a disservice to the hardcore, practically academic R&B preservation that the LA native routinely engages in: The guy still records *vinyl seven-inchers*, after all, and gives nary a thought to updating the '50s-era 45s that clearly inspire his

productions. But it's his instinctual, from-the-gut approach that gives heart to his retro-soul sound. Granted, Waterhouse's occasionally off-note tenor doesn't pack the wallop required for this genre, but he possesses a golden ear for raw arrangements and killer musicianship. *Justin Hampton*



Bi-Marks
The Golden Years LP
(Mata lo Musico Discos)

Usually, I find that when you go chasing after a release featuring a member of a band you already love—in this case, Portland crust lords Nerveskade—you're gonna be disappointed. Theory blown: I can't get enough of this record. Eighteen tracks of stellar, rip-the-doors-off-the-cellar punkish

hardcore, with just enough melody to keep it from sounding like nothing more than 18 tornados touching down. The vocals are hot and hard-edged, conjuring a tougher Milo Aukerman or the guy who sang for Koro, minus the shitty reverb. Plus the bass just *never stops*.

Polly Watson

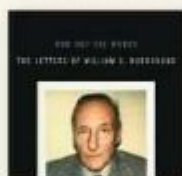


Brian Jonestown Massacre
Aufheben
(Cargo Records)

Thirteen albums in, Anton Newcombe isn't about to change his stripes. But there's still plenty of operating space within his archetypal, Eastern-tinged, late-'60s psychedelic-rock milieu. Warm, dreamy melodies are the plot, from tunes that tinkle gently like a sunny poolside cocktail

("Blue Order New Monday") to woozy British Invasion rock with an undercurrent of Eastern modalities ("I Wanna Hold Your Other Hand") and spacey, reverb-laden psych ("The Clouds Are Lies"). It's Newcombe's most skilled BJM lineup to date, and the payoff is 11 loose, effortlessly engaging tunes. *Chris Parker*

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS



Rub Out the Words
William S. Burroughs
(Ecco)

This second volume of novelist William S. Burroughs's letters collects his correspondence from 1959 through 1974. The usual suspects show up—Ginsberg, Kerouac, Brion Gysin, Terry Southern, Paul Bowles, Timothy Leary—while a number of emerging concepts, from Gay Power to Scientology

to the use of apomorphine in addiction treatment, are addressed here. So too are the various attempts to get *Naked Lunch* filmed. The man's rich intelligence continues to deliver novel concepts: e.g. "The only thing that could unite the planet would be the exploration of space." *Michael Simmons*

FILM RECOMMENDATIONS



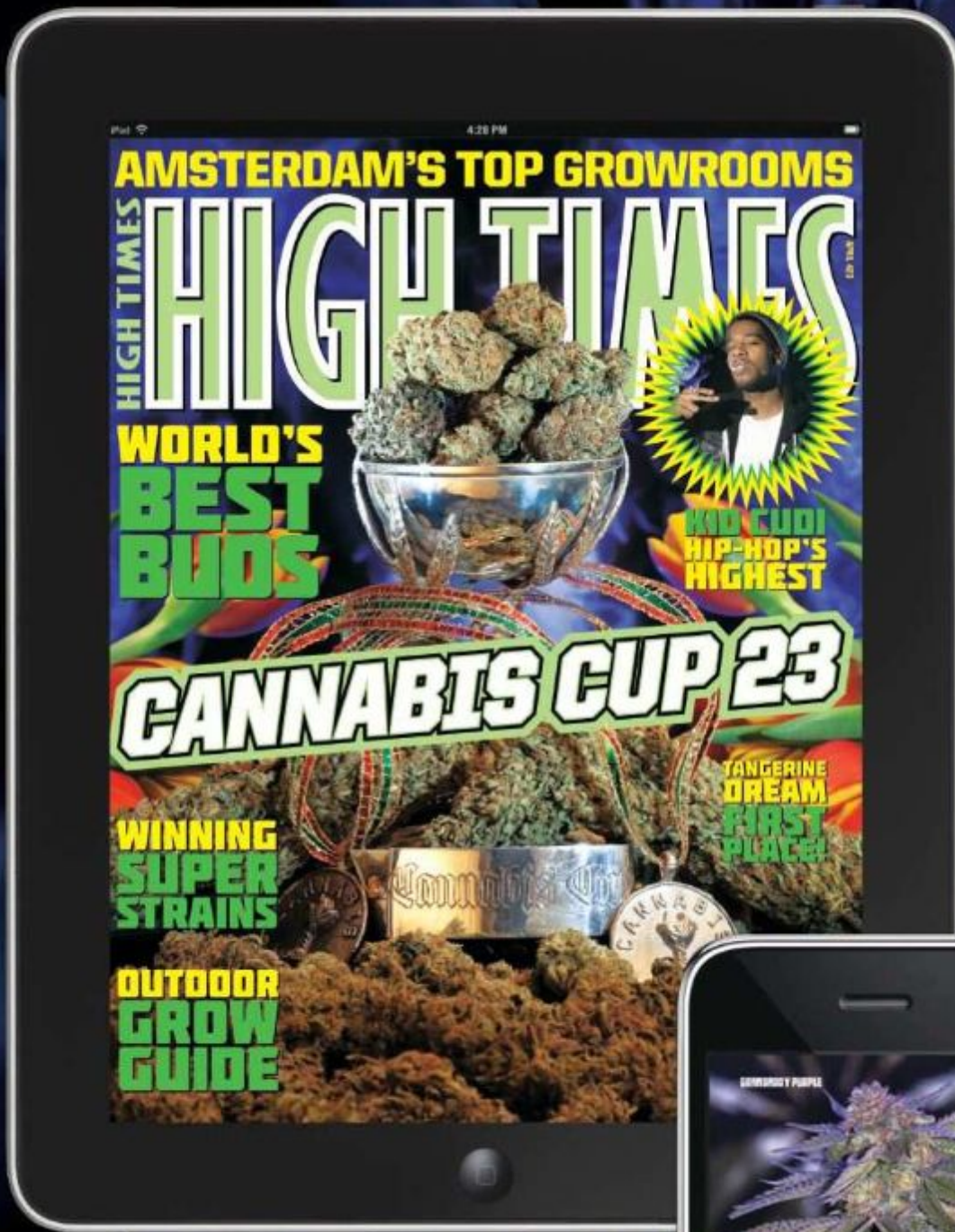
Man Free
Directed by Kinsey Beck
(Kinseyfilm Inc.)

Clocking in at just under an hour, *Man Free* is nevertheless an expansive view into the everyday life of Jamaican people from all parts and walks of the island. Though Jamaica is still quite impoverished, its soul is intact and Kinsey paints the portrait of a country rich in faith, good

will and freedom (along with its fair share of ganja). Though at times the content can seem a bit piecemeal, the fact is that if the whole world were to live by the definition of "man free"—true and mutual personal freedom—it would be an infinitely better place.

Mary Ought Six

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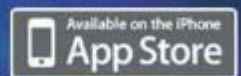
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► *High Times* will host four stateside Medical Cannabis Cups in 2012, each one offering an abundance of activities in which attendees can take part. But keeping track of everything that's going on amidst the haze of medication can be difficult: You might be missing an incredible grow seminar with *HT* cultivation editor Nico Escondido or forgetting the lineup for that evening's VIP concert.

But don't fret! Starting with this year's San Francisco Medical Cannabis Cup, you'll now have easy access to everything that each Cup has to offer—from a detailed schedule of events (including seminars, concerts and award shows) to a map of the expo (to help you find the products you're interested in as well as the dispensaries you want to check out).

Best of all, you'll be able to carry all of this information right on your smartphone simply by downloading the free San Francisco Medical Cannabis Cup app on Guidebook.

In addition to the Cup schedule and expo map, the app also provides an RSS feed with relevant Cup-based news, a build-your-own-schedule feature, social media sharing on Facebook and Twitter, a photo module, a to-do list and much, much more. Plus you'll receive push notifications that will keep you not only up to date, but up to the *minute*.

Every Medical Cannabis Cup is a unique and exciting experience, so make the most of yours with the free Guidebook app.

Download the app at guidebook.com/g/sfcup.

► Activist Campus of the Month

The University of Connecticut SSDP chapter has played a pivotal role, both on campus and statewide, in the marijuana law reform movement during the past year. Recently, UConn SSDP led a successful effort to change the university's drug and alcohol policies, amending the penalties for students found in possession of small amounts of marijuana to equalize their punishment with that of underage drinkers. This win came on the heels of the chapter's involvement in the statewide fight to decriminalize marijuana in Connecticut last summer. It's safe to say that these Huskies are leading the pack on marijuana law reform!

Learn more at ssdp.org.

MISSHIGHTIMES.COM



This month, we bid a fond farewell to our lovely Miss HIGH TIMES 2011, Clazina Rose Van Andel, as she relinquishes her crown to our new smokesmodel for 2012. Next month, we reveal our 2012 winner and our first finalist for 2013!

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MUNCHIES

BUD LOVERS' BURRITOS

Heading south of the border for some sensi spice.

This month, you get much more than a delicious recipe for some Grateful Dead tour-inspired burritos; you also get the wonderful news that *The Official High Times Cannabis Cookbook* has finally come out, with plenty of heady meals that will have you food-gasming all over the place. Compiled by Elise McDonough, the book offers the most cultivated perspectives on cannabis cooking along with a range of classic to cutting-edge *High Times* recipes (including this one) that will be sure to satisfy your soul. *Mary Ought Six*

MINI KIND VEGGIE BURRITOS

15 oz can vegetarian refried beans
15 oz can black beans, drained and rinsed
6 tbsp THC oil (see below), plus 1 extra for brushing
1 sweet onion, diced
1 small zucchini or summer squash, shredded
2 tsp salt
1 red bell pepper, chopped
1 cup sliced mushrooms
1 cup diced steamed potatoes
1 tsp paprika
2 tsp cumin
¼ tsp cayenne pepper
1 cup cooked long-grain brown rice
20 small flour tortillas (soft taco size)
2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
Salsa, sour cream and Ganja Guacamole to dress

For the THC oil:

7 tbsp olive oil
½ oz finely ground cannabis buds or ¼ oz ground dry leaf trim
In a double boiler, slowly heat the oil on low. Add the ground cannabis slowly, stirring until fully coated. Simmer over low heat for 45 minutes, stirring occasionally. Remove the mixture from heat and allow to cool before straining. Press the plant matter with the back of a spoon to get all the oil.

For the burritos:

Preheat the oven to 300°F. In a two-quart pot, mix the two cans of beans with two to three tablespoons of water and bring to a simmer over low heat.

While the beans cook, warm a sauté pan over medium heat

and add six tablespoons of THC oil. Let the oil warm for 30 seconds, then add the onion and sauté until golden brown (about eight minutes).

While the onion is cooking, toss the shredded zucchini with one teaspoon of salt in a colander, squeeze out the excess water and set aside. Add the bell pepper to the sautéed onion and cook for a few minutes before adding the mushrooms, zucchini and potatoes. Sprinkle with paprika, cumin and cayenne pepper, cooking until the mushrooms have released their juices (about five minutes). Remove the veggie mix from heat and add the remaining one teaspoon of salt. Add cooked rice to the veggies and stir.

Spread one heaping spoonful of beans onto each tortilla, then place one heaping spoonful of veggies and rice in the middle, topped by a sprinkle of cheese. To fold, bring the bottom edge of the tortilla up over the filling, then tuck in the sides and cover with the tortilla's top edge. Place the burrito in a glass pan and repeat until you have 20 little burritos or run out of filling.

Brush the burritos with the remaining THC oil and bake for 10 minutes, just until the tortillas are golden brown. Serve with salsa, sour cream and Ganja Guacamole! *Stones 10*

Visit Elise McDonough's blog at: hightimes.com/blog/emcdonough.

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3 Poke a Bowl

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italhempwick.com

Most of us can improvise a cleaning tool for our pipes, bongs and bowls if we have to, but nothing beats these 100 percent bamboo **I-Tal Pokers** from the good folks who gave us the I-Tal Hempwick. These pokers are disposable, biodegradable and (best of all) specially designed to dig deep into tubes or down-stems to remove any gunk that might be clogging them.

4 Wise Vaping

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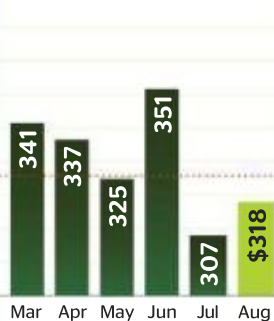
(Berry Kush)
"I left the lid cracked on the container overnight and my whole house smelled dank the next morning!"
St. Paul, MN

MARKET ANALYSIS

Prices by the ounce

The US Price Index finished August \$11 higher than its previous month's average. However, \$318 an ounce is still \$8 below the Index's year-to-date average. The Kind and Mids indices both experienced drops this month. The Mids Index reached a seven-month low at \$263 an ounce. The Schwag Index, on the other hand, rebounded nicely in August, finishing at its highest monthly average since January.

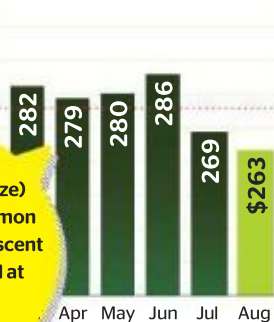
US Price Index
YTD Average: \$326



Kind Index
YTD Average: \$413



Mids Index
YTD Average: \$276



Schwag Index
YTD Average: \$103



(Super Lemon Haze)
"Like smoking a lemon peel! Bright lemon scent and flavor. Tested at 20.6% THC."
Lansing, MI

TRANS HIGH MARKET QUOTATIONS

STATE	CITY	STRAIN	PRICE
Arizona	Phoenix	Purple Urkle	\$400
		Green Widow	400
Arkansas	El Dorado	Vortex	420
		The Third Dimension	450
California	Tulare	Sour Diesel	120
		Banana Kush	120
Colorado	Denver	White Widow	250
Florida	Sarasota	Kush	315
Hawaii	Big Island	Cannatonic	550
		Romulan	350
	Kona	Cheese Quake	650
		Critical + Purple Haze	240 240
Indiana	Hammond	G-13	340
		Pineapple x Lavender	340
Idaho	Sandpoint	Thai Haze	200
Maine	Lewiston	Chem Diesel x Sour Diesel	400
Maryland	Anne Arundel County	Blueberry Kush	350
		Trainwreck	350
Massachusetts	Taunton	Blue Dream	300
Michigan	Lansing	Chem Valley Kush	450
		Super Lemon Haze	450
		Casey Jones	300
Minnesota	Minneapolis	AK-47 x Northern Lights	315
		Sour Diesel	310
		White Widow	315
		Berry Kush	360
New York	New York	Strawberry Cough	400
		Chem Dog	450
North Carolina	Charlotte	Kush	400
Ohio	Huber Heights	Trainwreck	350
		Purps	400
		Blue Cheese	450
Oregon	Portland	White Widow	200
		Bubba Kush	200
		Trainwreck	165
Tennessee	Nashville	Mids	150
Texas	Austin	OG Kush	325
		Granddaddy Purps	350
		OG Skywalker	400
		Sour Diesel	350
		Bubba Kush	350
Virginia	Harrisonburg	Blue Dream	355
		OG Kush	355
		Trainwreck	350
Washington	Seattle	Cheese	280
INTERNATIONAL			
Canada	Ottawa	Purple Kush	C\$165
	Toronto	Jack Herer	150
	Welland	Blueberry	185

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(Sour Diesel)
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Tulare, CA

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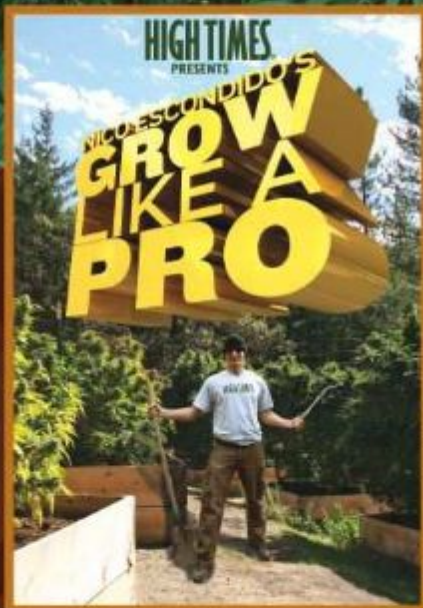


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B52
BIG BUD
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BUBBLELICIOUS
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EARLY BUD
EARLY MISTY
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WHITE WIDOW

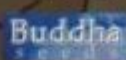


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ALASKA ICETHE CHURCH
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BIG BANG
BIG BANG (AUTO FLOWER)
BUBBA KUSH
CHEESE
CHEM DOG
DAMN SOUR
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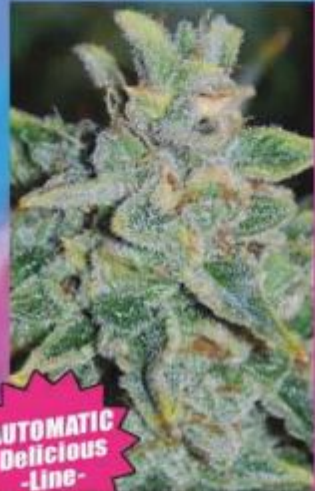
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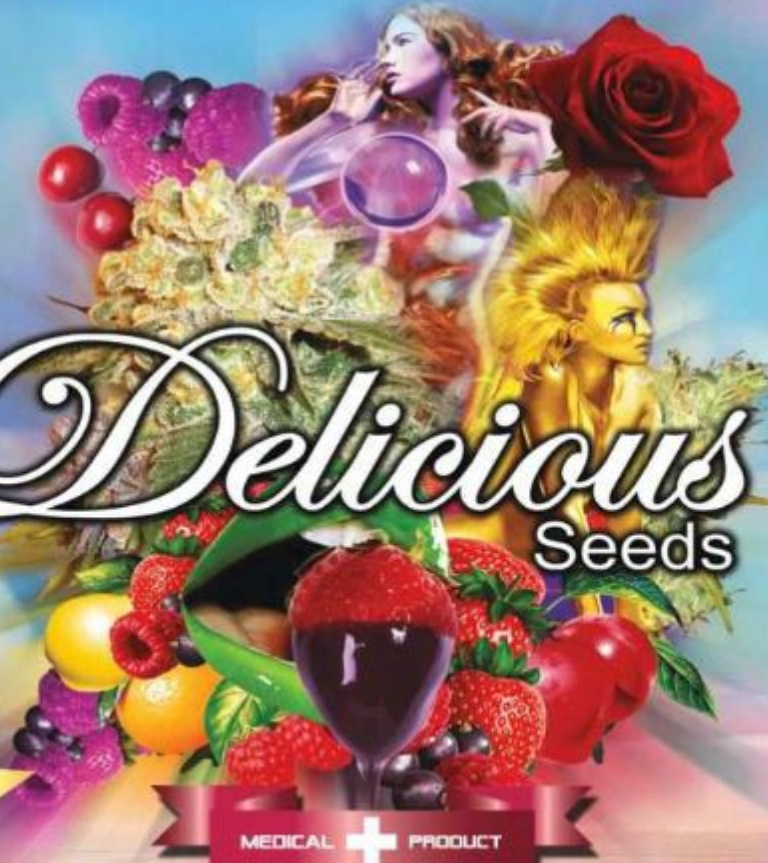
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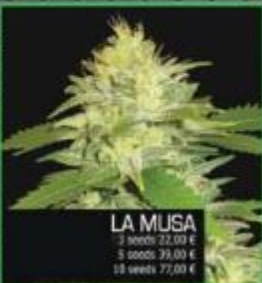
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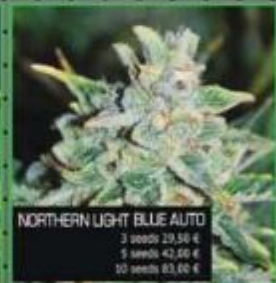
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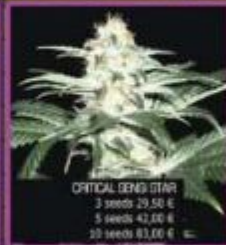


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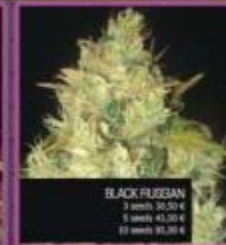
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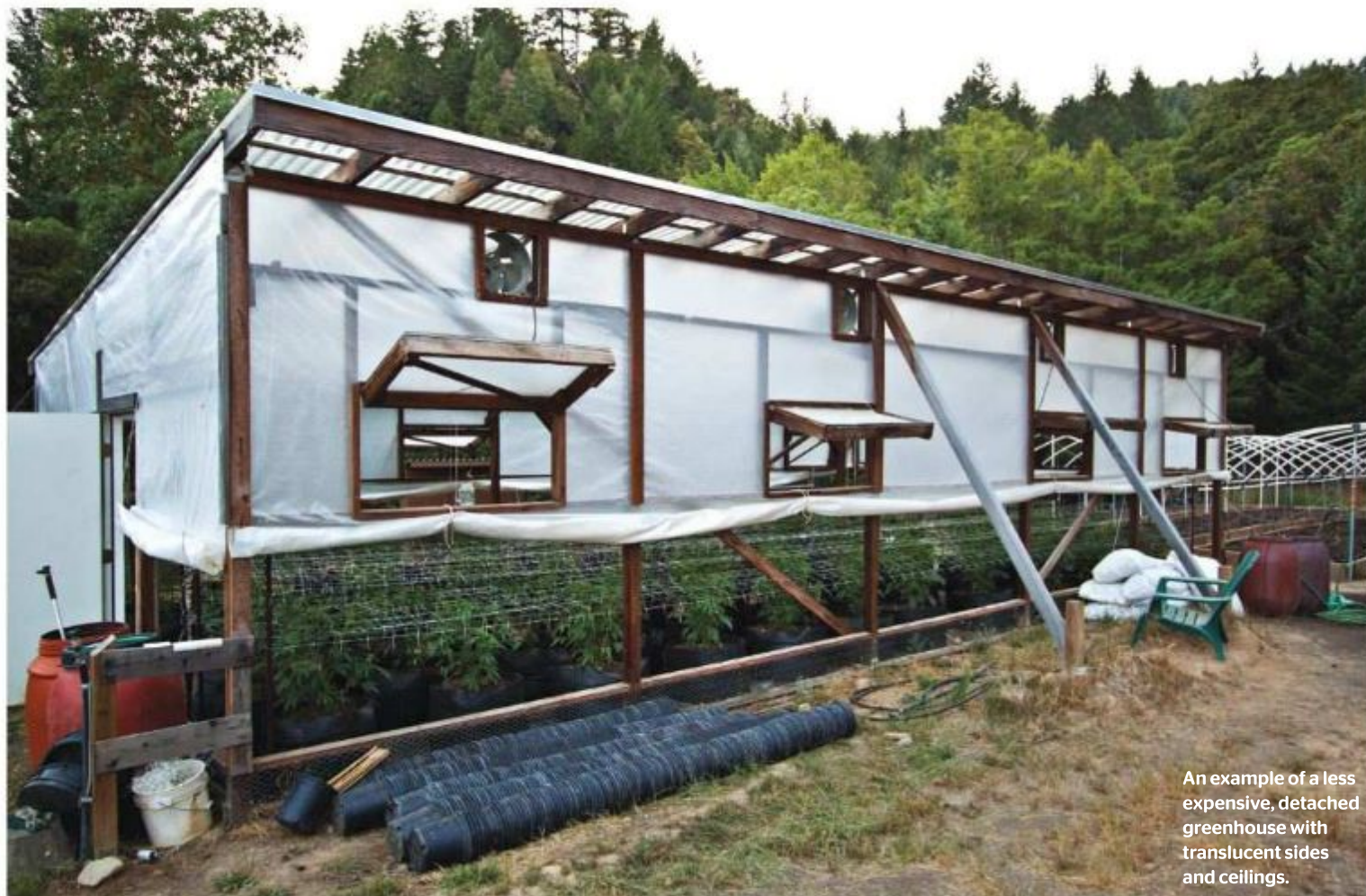
GREENHOUSE GROW BASICS

The luxury of indoor with the power of outdoor.

By Nico Escondido



A tale of two gardens:
Greenhouse growing
offers the best of
both worlds.



An example of a less expensive, detached greenhouse with translucent sides and ceilings.

Combining the best of both worlds—which is to say, an indoor growroom and an outdoor garden—can have major benefits for cannabis farmers and their crops. This is because greenhouse growing is among the very best methods for the cultivation of any plant, combining precise and detailed garden control with the powerful benefits of our sun.

So what exactly is a greenhouse? Simply put, a greenhouse is a building specially constructed for growing plants under controlled conditions, but with a translucent ceiling and walls that allow natural sunlight to enter. In fact, in Europe, greenhouses are most commonly referred to as *glasshouses*, because glass is generally the material of choice used to build greenhouses there. Hence, the best part of outdoor cultivation—the sun and its powerful spectrum of light—is brought into an indoor environment.

Inside the greenhouse, all other conditions are established and maintained by the grower. While this is an ideal setup for optimizing a garden's output, it also requires a great deal of work and management. Let's start by taking a look at the different types of greenhouses available before getting into the more technical details of setting up your own personal greenhouse grow.

Greenhouse Types

Greenhouses come in a variety of sizes and types to accommodate almost any space and suit each grower's specific circumstances and needs. The three basic types of greenhouses are *attached*, *detached* and *connected*.

Attached greenhouses are simple and less expensive to design and construct since they're always connected to another building, which cuts down on materials and costs (i.e., because one side of the future greenhouse already exists). The most common type of attached greenhouse is the lean-to, in which the greenhouse roof is attached to the pre-existing building's wall and then slopes away, making it look as though the greenhouse is leaning into it.

A detached or freestanding greenhouse is exactly what the name implies: a stand-alone structure with four discrete walls and a ceiling. The advantage here is that a detached greenhouse is not limited in its positioning by the need for a preexisting structure and can be built to reap the benefits of a given location's natural advantages, such as sunlight, wind or water. Detached greenhouses are most commonly referred to as A-frames or even-spans, and these are the most common greenhouse designs. Other A-frames

with asymmetrical rooftops and designs are less common, but more adaptable to hillsides or other rugged terrain.

When multiple greenhouses are joined together, they create a multi-span or connected greenhouse. Connected greenhouses are ideal for large-scale commercial ops, where the greenhouse units are joined along the eaves to create a large, undivided space. This connected arrangement makes heating and cooling the gardens inside much more efficient and economical.

In addition to these larger, permanent greenhouses, there are a couple of easily set up, climate-controlled structures for growing plants on a smaller or temporary scale. Cold frames and hotbeds are two very popular types of greenhouse for the home grower or hobbyist. A cold frame is a structure of any size (usually made of inexpensive wood or plastic) that is covered with a translucent, heat-trapping material such as clear, thick plastic or thin plate glass. A hotbed is simply a cold frame fitted with any sort of heating system. Cold frames and hotbeds can both be as small as a large box or big enough for a human to walk into.

Cold frames are heated by sunlight, which keeps their operational costs low. However, they're also less stable and not very durable in extreme weather; nor



This greenhouse utilizes an industrial-sized air conditioner (entire back wall) with huge industrial fans to keep GH temps cool.

do they lend themselves to any sort of extensive environmental control equipment, as do the larger, more permanent greenhouse types listed above.

Environmental Control

When we talk about environmental control inside a greenhouse, we're referring specifically to temperature, humidity and air-quality control systems. Supplemental lighting is another possible component of environmental control. Depending on the type of greenhouse you choose, the options available for controlling the interior grow environment will vary greatly. Needless to say, a durable, stable greenhouse structure is required to incorporate industrial-sized equipment since smaller, less durable greenhouses will have trouble fitting or holding the larger gear. At the same time, larger greenhouses usually have some ventilation tools built directly into them—for example, low-velocity intake fans and exhaust vents in the rooftop.

Temperature is perhaps the most important aspect of environmental control in greenhouses, simply because of the nature of the structure. Greenhouses are built to allow sunlight in, thereby trapping the sun's radiant heat (known as the "greenhouse effect"). This can be

a good thing during colder seasons, but quite a nuisance during hot ones. Ideal daytime temps in a greenhouse usually run between 65°F and 80°F, depending on the strains (most strains prefer between 72°F and 78°F). Nighttime temps will generally be cooler and range from 55°F to 65°F, depending on the latitude of the greenhouse and the season.

Modern greenhouse climate control is highly automated. Sensors can monitor all environmental conditions, especially temperature, and trigger mechanical operations to bring them to optimal levels. For example, when a greenhouse gets too warm, motorized windows or vents (usually located at the top, or ridge,

of the greenhouse) may open to exhaust hot air from the garden's environs. Large fans, either hanging or placed at ground level, may be used to circulate air within the greenhouse or to aid in venting hot air out. In some greenhouses, particularly those in warmer regions, sensors may be used to turn on large industrial air conditioners to lower the garden temperature.

Conversely, some greenhouses are constructed to protect against colder climates. In these situations, heating systems within the greenhouse may be needed to supplement the heat collected from the sun. Hot-water and steam systems are two popular ways for growers to heat the interior of a greenhouse.

Notes on Soil Temperature

Soil temperature isn't something you often hear about when it comes to cannabis cultivation: Indoor growers don't need to worry as much about it, and outdoor growers are at the mercy of Mother Nature. However, for greenhouse growers, soil temperature can definitely be a concern.

Soil temperature is important because it regulates the rate at which chemical reactions take place. This is especially important at the root-zone level, where nutrient uptake occurs. Furthermore, root structures won't grow at all when root-zone temps fall below 45°F. This is especially important for young developing plants, because the size of the root zone directly affects the size of the plant above it. And, needless to say, bigger plants usually mean larger harvests.

Some growers irrigate their gardens with warm water during colder periods; however, this infusion of heat won't last more than 30 minutes, after which the cold sets in again. A continuous circulation of warm water under the garden beds is a much better method for getting soil temps to optimal levels. Floor-heating systems are also ideal, but these can be expensive. Warm-water circulation and even electric heating mats offer some of the more efficient and economical solutions for combating low soil temps. In the end, the reward will be better growth and yields, which makes the trouble well worth it.

Controlling Humidity

As in any grow environment, humidity and temperature work together in a greenhouse. Humidity is the relative amount of water vapor in the air, which can be measured easily using a hygrometer. Most plants, including cannabis, do well with a relative humidity of 60%. Lower levels approaching the 40% threshold risk producing plant stress and inferior quality and yields.

During the winter months, greenhouse humidity tends to dip. Look for drying leaf tips as a sign that the greenhouse humidity is too low. One common problem in both indoor growrooms and greenhouses during the winter season is that the use of heaters dries the air. There are a few easy ways to increase humidity in indoor spaces, including the use of standard domestic humidifiers. Other methods include more localized humidifying, such as the use of automated misters, or even periodic hand-spraying to keep individual plants or entire sections of the garden moist and humid.

Another solution can be to place the plant containers in trays with a thin layer of hardened expanded clay (HEC) pebbles. Keeping a low level of water in the tray below the pebbles creates a continuous humid microclimate for these plants.



Good ventilation helps prevent rising humidity. Smaller structures can roll up plastic siding to help vent moisture.

Supplemental Lighting

Greenhouse lighting (i.e., light from sources excluding the Sun) usually refers to supplemental *artificial* lighting, just as one might find in a typical indoor growroom. Supplemental lighting in a greenhouse can be used for a variety of reasons, though it boils down to two basic functions. The first is the need to provide longer photoperiods for a seedling or clone nursery (or related mother plants), or to provide longer light cycles for transplanted or vegetating plants not yet ready to flower. The other is the need to garner extra annual flowering cycles once the Sun's natural photoperiod becomes too short (primarily in the winter months or in extreme northern or southern locations).

The first case usually warrants an additional wall within the greenhouse to cordon off a vegetative area with extended light periods from areas that have flowering cannabis plants requiring no more than 12 hours of light. These areas function just as an indoor nursery or veg room would and may use less intense forms of artificial lighting, such as fluorescent lights or low-wattage metal halide bulbs. During daytime hours, when the Sun provides adequate light, the artificial lighting is either dimmed or turned off completely. This helps cut down on power costs and makes a greenhouse that much more efficient.

In the second case, where the goal is to add an additional flowering cycle (or two) to a greenhouse's annual run, the

supplemental lighting follows along the same lines as extended lighting for a veg room or nursery—but in this case, the additional light extends the grow season beyond what the Sun can naturally provide. In most areas (with the exception of those close to the equator), greenhouse growing is only viable from late spring through mid-fall—and in some less fortunate areas of the planet, these growing months can be cut even shorter.

Growers know that an extra cycle or two equals more harvests, so savvy greenhouse growers take advantage of their structures to hang high-intensity discharge (HID) lamps over their gardens. When the Sun's daylight begins to wane to 10 (or eight, or even six) hours a day, growers can switch to their HID lighting to complete the 12-hour photoperiod for cannabis flowers. This supplemental lighting not only adds an additional crop to their yearly total, but it's also more economical than going with a standard indoor grow, because the greenhouse will still get a few good hours of sunlight, saving the grower a chunk of money on additional kilowatt hours.

Light Deprivation Techniques

With the increasing popularity of medical marijuana during the past decade, the use of light deprivation techniques for cannabis greenhouses has become widespread in the US, though such practices have been in use in other forms of agriculture for centuries. For those new to the concept, light deprivation (or "light dep" for short) is a method of reducing the light cycle of flowering plants in which the greenhouse is actually covered to block light, thereby depriving gardens of a prolonged photoperiod.

For cannabis cultivation, this process is integral to ensuring that plants stay in the flowering stage—a growth phase that requires 12 hours (or less) of light. Once the photoperiod begins to exceed 12 hours, flowering cannabis plants are in danger of reverting back to their vegetative stage of growth. This makes light deprivation techniques crucial for cannabis farmers who rely on timely crops.

One added benefit of using light-dep techniques lies in the ability to squeeze in an extra harvest during the summer months, when the Sun naturally provides a prolonged light cycle. By covering the greenhouse and limiting the daylight that plants receive to 12 hours, greenhouse growers can force a crop to flower earlier in the summer and get an extra harvest in before the traditional fall harvest.

Larger greenhouses allow for cannabis plants to reach their full physical form and potential.





Huge, black, opaque tarps are rolled up during peak daylight, then unfurled to cover the greenhouse after 12 hours of sunlight to force flowering.

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their plants after the 12-hour photoperiod is complete, thus triggering them to revert back to veg. Such light stress confuses plants and inhib-

its their growth and vigor, and it may even cause them to go hermaphrodite and produce smaller seeds. If a grower misses the time to manually cover the greenhouse—even by a few minutes—it can have disastrous effects on his or her cannabis crop.

Today, there are many options for greenhouse farmers who want to utilize light-dep techniques for an extra harvest. Aside from automated shades, there are certain types of glass that can automatically tint and become opaque to block out light. There are also entire greenhouses of varying sizes available with retractable roofs to ensure a complete light seal and a proper light-dep crop. ✨

To cover a greenhouse and block out the sunlight, several methods may be used. For smaller greenhouses, such as lean-tos and cold frames, growers can simply pull heavy tarps over the structure after 12 hours of sunlight. For larger commercial greenhouses, automated

shading is usually installed and operated using programmable timers. The latter option is preferable even for smaller greenhouses because it helps to eliminate any human error during the sensitive flowering stage. After all, the last thing cannabis farmers need is light hitting

For more on greenhouse growing, check out Nico's Grow Like a Pro DVD, which covers indoor, outdoor and greenhouse grow operations.

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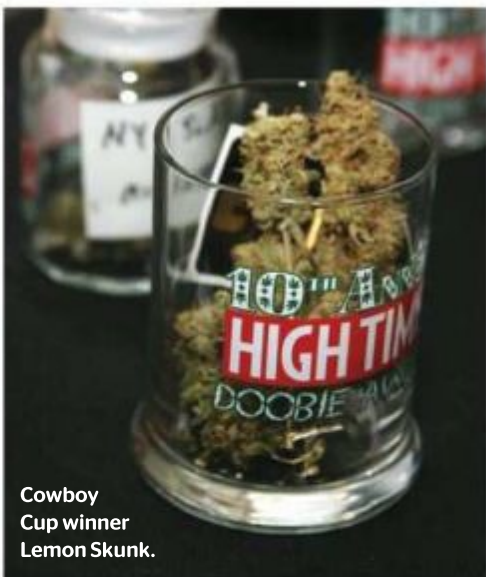
Doug Benson presents the award for Pot Song of The Year.



B.o.B and Bobby B: stoner sign language.

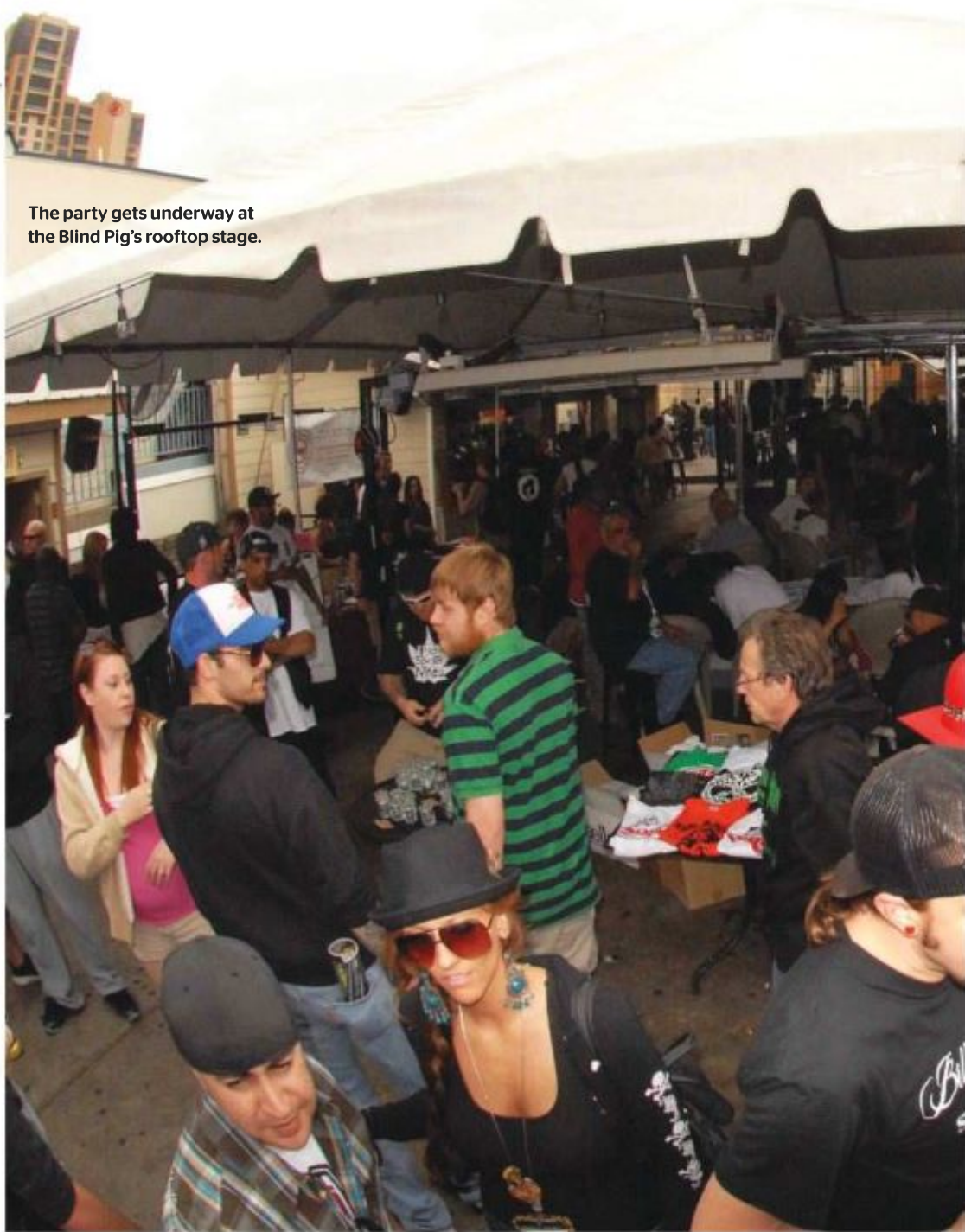


The show's comedic co-host Ben Vitoff.



Cowboy Cup winner Lemon Skunk.

The party gets underway at the Blind Pig's rooftop stage.



A Decade of

The HIGH TIMES Doobie Awards celebrate their

The Oscars, the Emmys, the Tonys, the Grammys ... it seems like hardly a month goes by when there isn't some awards show on the tube. Well, back in 2000, we decided that HIGH TIMES should have its own awards, and thus the Stonys (for movies and television) and the Doobies (for music) were born. On September 6, 2000, we held our first-ever Doobie Awards show at the now-defunct, 420-friendly Wetlands club in NYC. Bong trophies were given out in 17 categories, with the venerable Jerry Garcia posthumously winning the first Lifetime Achievement Award.

The second annual show, scheduled for September 12, 2001, was cancelled due to the terrorist attacks on 9/11. The Doobies came back strong the following year, however, with a tremendous show at B.B. King's Blues Club & Grill in Times Square starring Joe Rogan, Dave Chappelle, Sean Paul, New Riders of the Purple Sage, and a hot new stoner metal band called High On Fire.

Despite their success, the Doobies were put on hiatus from 2004 until 2006, when they were resurrected and moved from New York City to what has become their permanent new home at the South by Southwest (SXSW) music festival in



HT Records artist Smoke DZA accepts the award for Best Hip-Hop.



A babe from Billy Cannon's smoke shop hits the bag.



DJ Slim and his custom cane-pipe.



High On Fire's Matt Pike—master of marijuana metal.

Doobies

10th anniversary. By Bobby Black

Austin, TX, where we'd already been throwing an annual party since 1996. That year, we awarded a Best Radio Station award to KLBJ 93.7—"the Rock of Austin"—while Willie Nelson took home the Lifetime Achievement Award.

It was in 2007 that I took over the responsibility of running the Doobie Awards as both producer and host. That year, we bestowed the Lifetime Achievement Award upon Blue Cheer, and instituted Austin's first official pot-judging party—the Cowboy Cup.

Since then, both the Doobies and the Cowboy Cup have flourished, attracting the kindest herb in Texas as well as loads

of up-and-coming musical talents and celebrity presenters, including members of the Sword, Kings X, Queens of the Stone Age and Pantera, as well as pot comics like Brody Stevens, Rob Cantrell and Doug Benson. And let me tell you, this year was no exception.

On Friday, March 16 at 4:20 p.m., I was invited to be a guest on the B-Doe show on KBLJ. B-Doe returned the favor, making an appearance at the Cowboy Cup on Saturday, which was hosted by Austin Collective in a duplex condo with three balconies overlooking the city's fabled Sixth Street strip. Featuring some 15 strains, including Sweet Island Skunk,



Austin's own In The Pink.



Best Alternative / Indie Artists the Sheepdogs.



Planet Asia rocks some rhymes.

Hashrica, Bubba Kush, Cheese Puffs and CPG, it was our biggest Cowboy Cup to date. In the end, it was Minister Mike's Lemon Skunk that got the most votes.

For the awards show on Sunday, a stellar lineup of bands performed on the rooftop stage at the Blind Pig Pub (also overlooking Sixth Street). In honor of the event's milestone 10th anniversary, Doobies veterans High On Fire performed, along with the Sheepdogs (who won a contest to become the first unsigned band ever to grace the cover of *Rolling Stone*), Lo-Pan, In the Pink, Fayuca, the Boxing Lesson, and rappers Planet Asia, Real One and DJ Slim. In between sets, my comedic co-host Ben Vitoff (see page 110) and I handed out the trademark bong trophies in 11 categories, most notably Pot Song of the Year to "Young, Wild & Free" by Wiz Khalifa (featuring Snoop Dogg) and

the Lifetime Achievement Award to the father of funk, George Clinton.

A huge, Texas-sized thank you to all of our performers, sponsors and vendors (420 Science, CS Travel, Red Gorilla Music Fest, Billy Cannon's Smoke & Ink, Herbivore Designs, Dank Decals, Grassroots California, Lighter Mate, Hippy Thug Apparel, San Antonio NORML, Austin NORML, Outgrow Big Bro and Hot Mama's Café). We'd also like to thank Austin Collective, Hitman Glass (for supplying the trophies), Hemp Beach TV (for driving from Florida to cover the event), B-Doe and the staff of KLBK, the management and staff of the Blind Pig Pub, all of the folks at SXSW, and last but not never least, the awesome people of Austin for welcoming us and keeping it weird for all these years! ✨

For more info about the Doobies go to facebook.com/doobieawards.

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10th ANNUAL HIGH TIMES DOOBIE AWARDS

WINNERS

POT SONG OF THE YEAR
 "Young, Wild & Free"
 by Wiz Khalifa (feat. Snoop Dogg)

BEST HIP-HOP ARTIST
 Smoke DZA

BEST REGGAE ARTIST
 Groundation

BEST JAM BAND ARTIST
 Keller Williams

BEST ROCK ARTIST
 Jane's Addiction

BEST ALTERNATIVE / INDIE ARTIST
 The Sheepdogs

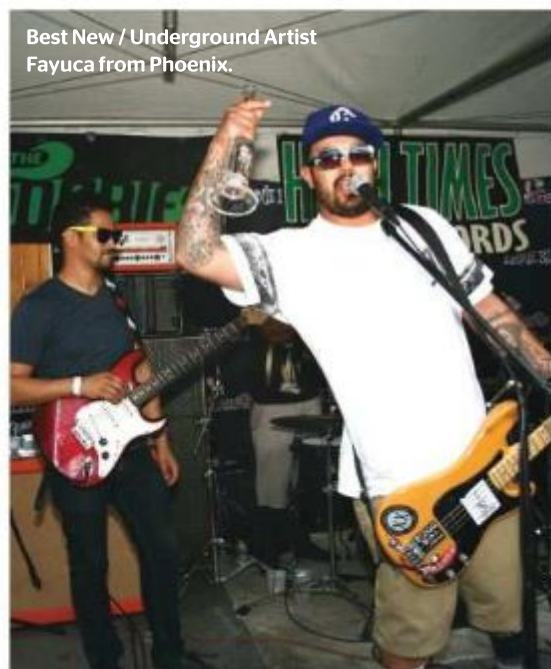
BEST METAL ARTIST
 DevilDriver

BEST STONER ROCK ARTIST
 Lionize

BEST NEW / UNDERGROUND ARTIST
 Fayuca

BEST ACTIVIST ARTIST
 TIE: Real One & DJ Slim

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
 George Clinton



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The 100,000-W

Deep in the heart of British Columbia, a marijuana factory operates 24/7, managed by a committed staff of expert growers. Take a glimpse into what the future of pot production looks like.

Story & photos by Dan Skye

att Growroom

One of 11 growrooms that BC Bud Depot operates at their medical grow

In the United States, it's not uncommon to hear the Founding Fathers quoted as though they were demigods. They weighed in on just about everything—religion, friendship, thrift, moral duty—and provided more than a few concise thoughts about cannabis. “Sow it everywhere!” George Washington wrote, while John Adams predicted that “We shall, by and by, want a world of *hemp* more for our own consumption,” and Thomas Jefferson asserted: “Hemp is of first necessity to the wealth and protection of the country.”

Unfortunately, their wise words have been deliberately ignored by those in charge of this country for the past 75 years. But pot prohibition certainly hasn't prevented marijuana's ascendance to the top of the agricultural heap; it now holds the title of top cash crop in both the US and Canada. So as the plant's acceptance continues to increase—along with the recognition that fresh domestic business ventures are essential to the revival of our sagging economy—high-minded, forward-looking marijuana growers are busy validating the Founders' claims regarding *Cannabis sativa*.

We are still in the infancy of the modern cannabis industry. The acceptance of

medical cannabis has enabled cultivators in “legal” locales to come out of the closet (if not the basement). Serious growers want the best possible space to realize their dreams—and if they can't find one ready-made, they'll design it themselves. After all, if you're looking to produce hundreds or even thousands of pounds per year, why settle for less?

The folks at the BC Bud Depot clearly haven't. Their facility in British Columbia is ensconced in a row of warehouse buildings situated in an industrial park located on the perimeter of town. From the outside, it doesn't seem all that remarkable—but on the inside, a staff of 10 works around the clock to ensure that 11 different growrooms within the facility are producing the very best cannabis plants possible.

These include six flowering rooms, as well as one room for mother plants, three veg rooms (with the overflow going into the mother room) and one drying room. There's also an immaculate, compact cloning area where healthy babies are nurtured. And, of course, because the staff needs its space too, the facility features a kitchen, bedroom, and recreational area outfitted with a wide-screen TV and all of the essential video-gaming gear.



Tending multiple gardens requires an onsite, 24/7 work force.

The level of production going on here requires in excess of 100,000 watts. Matt, the soft-spoken, hard-charging owner of BC Bud Depot, breaks down the lighting requirements as follows: “Let’s see, there are 94 1,000-watt lights in the flower rooms, 20 1,000-watters for the veg rooms ... that’s a total of 114 1,000-watt lights. We’ve also got 43 SunBlasters in the flowering rooms, fluorescents in the cloning closet and green service lighting in every room.” There are also Quantum Series digital ballasts in use throughout the facility.

Remarkably, this isn’t some sprawling, aircraft-hangar-sized operation; the area of bud production is relatively compact—one huge, maze-like, two-level box structure built in the center of the warehouse. It was constructed in two stages over the course of three months and features catwalks and stairs and a series of doors that open up onto gardens in various stages of maturation. Matt estimates that the cost of this first facility was somewhere in the neighborhood of C\$500,000 and adds that a second, similarly constructed indoor farm has just begun production.

BC Bud Depot is known internationally as a company that focuses on seed production and distribution. But Matt



Matt, owner of BC Bud Depot, is also a licensed medical grower.

was disturbed by the fact that numerous people with medical licenses from the Canadian government were unable to obtain their medicine safely. “The idea that a 60-year-old retired civil servant is forced to engage in street-level business transactions to satisfy their prescription was appalling to me,” he says. “The problem lies with people’s inability to grow marijuana, or being unable to afford the cost of setting up.”

Matt recognized the potential benefits of creating a large facility that would put him in direct contact with the patients themselves, who could provide feedback on his products and “ensure that what we put out there is tried, tested and true,” he says.

A decade ago, Canada seemed poised to lead the world in creating a truly enlightened national medical marijuana program. However, Health Canada—the government agency charged with managing it—has consistently proven itself inept, while the current administration of Prime Minister Stephen Harper has demonstrated that it is no friend of medical cannabis.

“Harper chooses to buddy up with the United States, and the US is hard-line on marijuana,” Matt says. “We have some legalization in place, but the public is demanding more. We’re quite informed up here. On the world stage, though, Canada tries to look like it’s not soft on drugs.”

Basically, under Canadian law, people may acquire a license to use or grow pot following a doctor’s certification of medical need. Patients are also able to designate another patient as their personal grower. So despite the bureaucratic mismanagement and an unsupportive

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PATENT PENDING



Cultivation manager Jay inspects clones.

government, a recognized medical marijuana program is still functioning in this country—and BC Bud Depot's gardens are not only completely sanctioned, but meet or exceed all of the standards required of them.

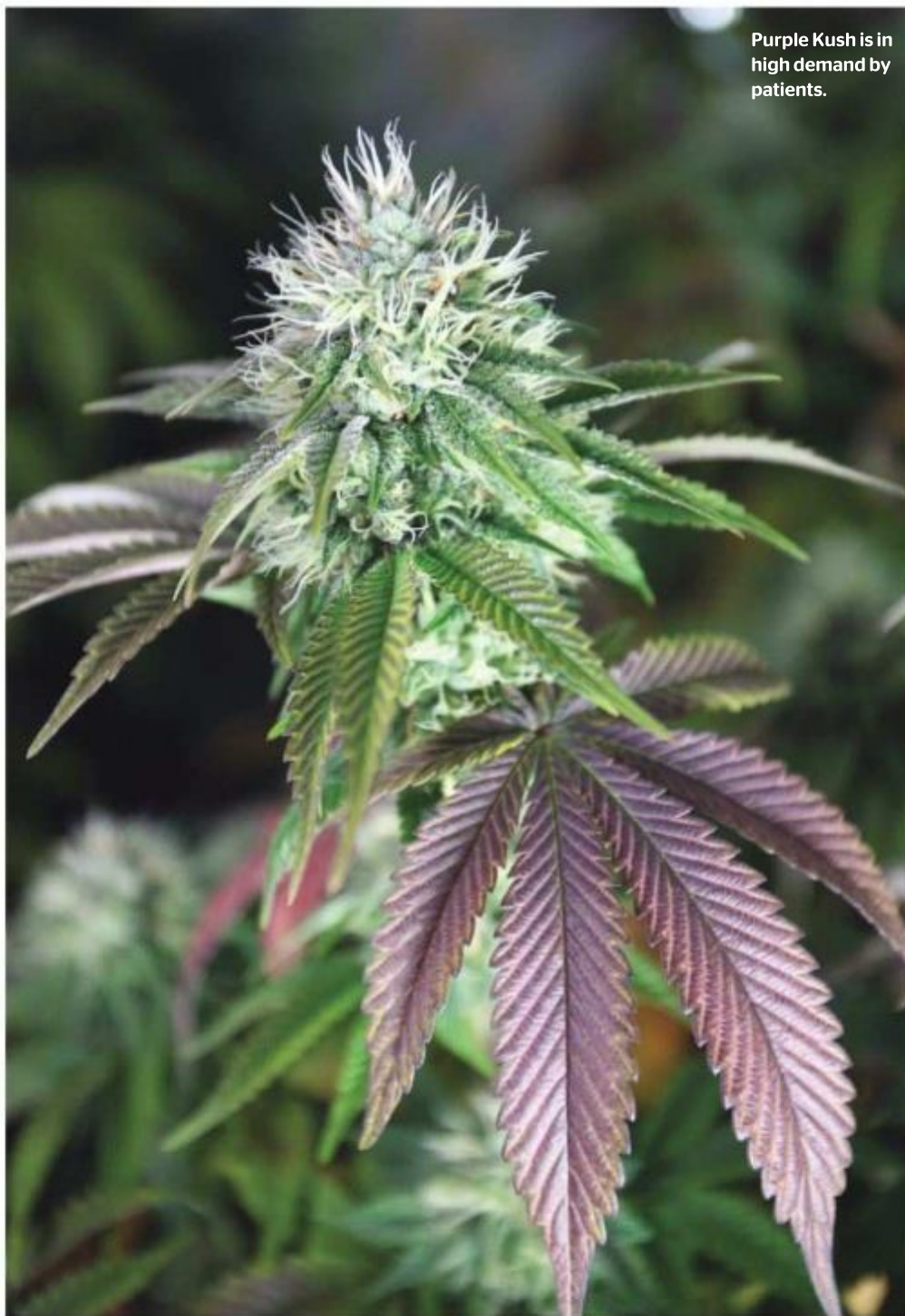
Jay, who oversees the cultivation work here, says: "People who are in pain or with serious medical issues don't necessarily own their own home or have space to grow. They have to look to guys like us, who can grow safe, legal medicine, rather than go to the street."

The BC Bud Depot facility serves multiple patients, and the Canadian authorities are kept fully up to speed as to the size of its operations. "Our licensing has been tight," Matt says. "Product distributions are tracked all the time. We wanted to create transparency here. We're not going to do anything wrong. In fact, we're going to be as legal as we can possibly be."

Jay adds, "When inspectors come through, they're used to seeing dungeons and basements, so they're blown back by our place—and, by the end of the day, they end up shaking our hands. We've had several visits from them, and every single one has been very friendly. The simple fact is, the government's going to have a hell of a time keeping up with the licensing and improving the system. They'll have to write a law—a *bunch* of new laws—in order to streamline this. That's when companies like ours will be called upon to assist in the transition."

So Matt and Jay both have their eyes on the future, even looking forward to a time when pot is completely legal.

During my tour of the operation, Jay explains: "We're a very business-like facility ... We want the guys we hire to



Purple Kush is in high demand by patients.

get a trade out of this." He points to a 19-year-old worker named Tim, who is going about his tasks diligently. "Tim's been here nearly a year, and he's going to be a master grower," Jay says. "As marijuana becomes legal, there will be a great demand for trusted, expert people. In the future, there will be plenty of jobs for knowledgeable commercial growers. This is an apprenticeship, if you will."

My first stop on the tour is an upstairs room where the plants are in varying stages of growth. "We have three full-sized flowering rooms, which have four plants per light that produce from two to two and a half pounds per light," Jay says. I note the 20 bud bulbs in each room, accompanied by the SunBlasters

hanging lower to shed light on the sides of the plants.

"We need space in those rooms," Jay continues, "since they need to be spread out once they're in bud. We don't pack them in like a lot of people like to do. In here, we *do* pack them in ... but once they get to a certain size, we'll spread them out, too. So we go from the mother room to the cloning closet and then plant them here. This is kind of our in-between room. They start at six inches and, once they get to a certain height, we'll replant them in seven-gallon buckets, which is what we use when they're in bud and in full production."

There are no giant, three-ton AC units here. Instead, the facility uses simple



Samsungs, with a backup floor unit at the ready in case of breakdowns. Additionally, each room is outfitted with eight-inch exhausts and equipped with air-in and air-out scrubbers to ensure that all of the air circulating here is clean. If the humidity reaches 70 percent, a humidistat kicks in and exhausts the room at roughly 800 cubic feet per minute.

Jay points out that the rooms have also been given a coat of “vapor barrier” paint, which is used in hospitals and kitchens and contains a fungicide to eliminate issues of mold. As the tour continues, he points out the wireless humidity and temperature controls, which allow the staff to check room levels without having to open the doors when the lights are off.

BC Bud Depot is concentrating on four strains at this facility, of which Purple Kush is the most prominent. God Bud is



here, too—the Depot’s 2004 *High Times* Cannabis Cup winner for Best *Indica*—as well as a few OG Kush and Green Crack specimens.

Creating simplicity is the guiding principle in this new era of the company. The medium is a blend of Sun Gro Sunshine #4, worm castings and dolomite lime, which neutralizes soil acidity and corrects the pH. For additives, General Hydroponics’ three-part program for all stages of vegetative and flowering growth is used. In weeks one, three, five and seven, the plants are also fed Bud Boom Plus from Plant Life products.

The 400-gallon reservoir system features three pumps, one of them gravity-fed. More than 100 gallons are returned daily, which allows the facility to avoid using the hard water that flows through the local water system and can result in nutrient blockages. It also keeps the yearly water costs here to about C\$1,000.

Presently, BC Bud Depot is in contact with other breeders and plans to introduce two exciting new strains from the Far East, both specifically bred for medical users. One of these strains, developed in Japan and not previously seen beyond its shores, is known as Shiatzu Kush, which reportedly affects the shiatzu points of the human body.

“With this operation, we sense the end of pot prohibition,” Jay says optimistically. “We’re at ground zero of a new era.”

“We’re going to take our existing systems and apply them in other facilities with the people we have, and then hire people under those people so *they* get trained,” Matt adds. “We are continuing to build our base of knowledge; we try to school rather than create. One day, one of our workers like Tim will form his own team, and these young guys will have learned how to delegate downhill.”

Upon the conclusion of my tour, it was hard not to think of another nugget from the Founding Fathers, this one by Thomas Jefferson in a letter to George Washington: “Agriculture is our wisest pursuit, because it will in the end contribute most to real wealth, good morals and happiness.” The BC Bud Depot facility seemed excellent proof of Jefferson’s words, though it was more than a little ironic that, in order to see them in action on a grand scale, I had to leave the US and travel to Canada. ✨

From top: Two long rows of vegetating plants are almost ready for the flowering room; a CO₂ burner, a simple Samsung AC unit and air scrubbers keep the atmosphere clean; Tim is an apprentice who is on his way to becoming a “master grower.”



HIGH TIMES
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OG Kush





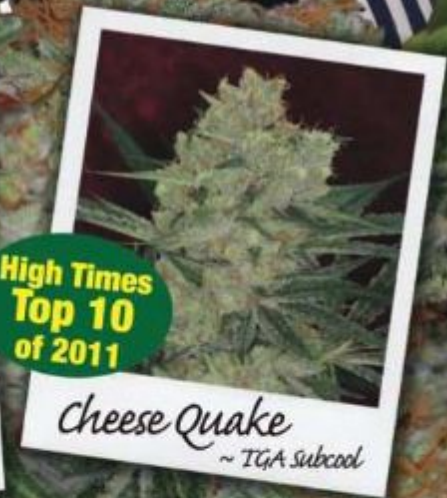
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Taming Sativas

Cannabis consumers love the electric “up” high of *sativa*-dominant strains, but ganja growers need to understand the specific needs of these stretchy pot plants to get the most from them indoors. **By Erik Biksa**



The *Sativa* Rush

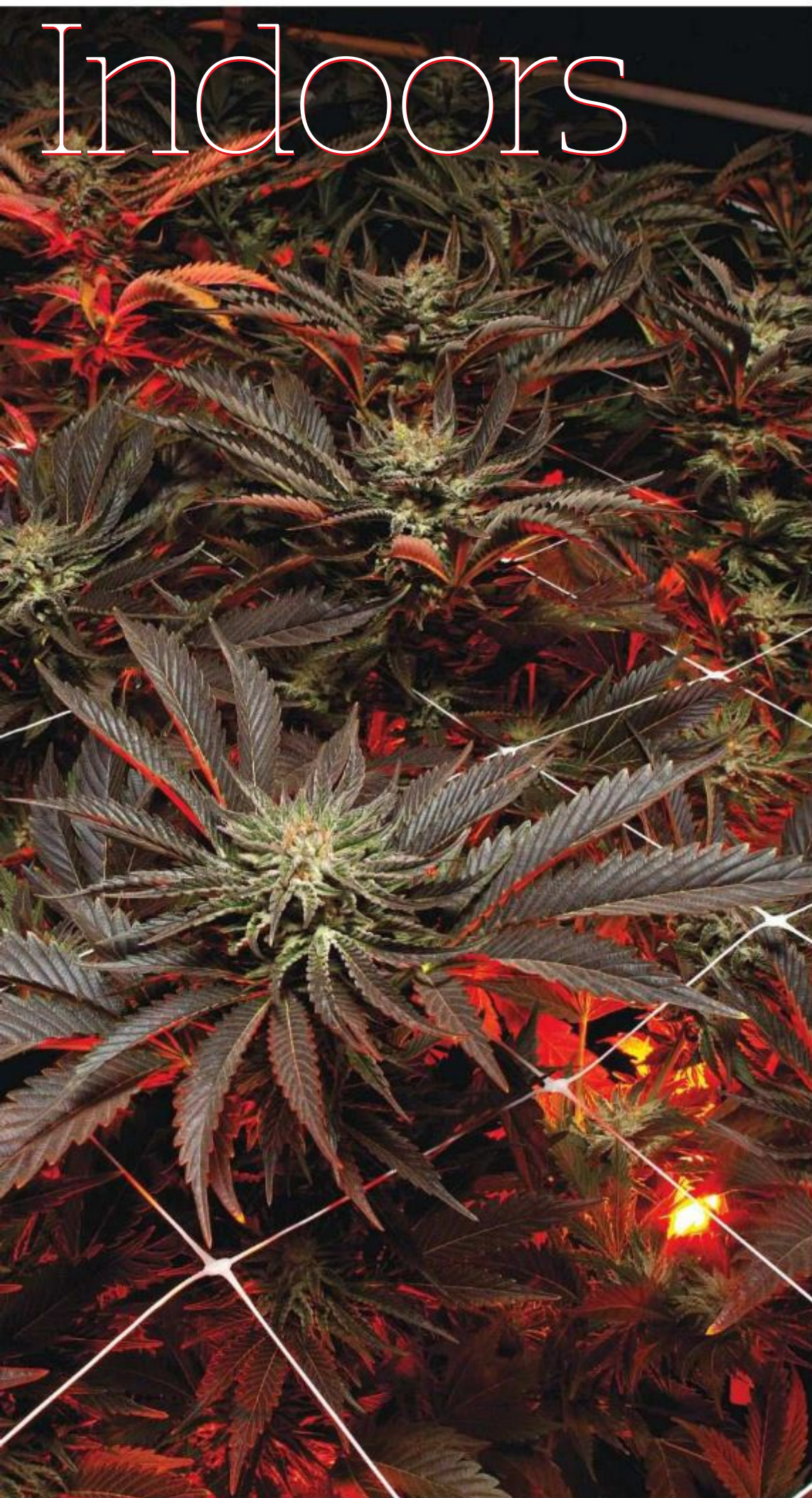
There's little to debate when it comes to acknowledging that different strains of medicinal cannabis appear to be more effective at treating or alleviating particular conditions based on individual patients' requirements. In many dispensaries and coffeeshops, *indica*-dominant strains are awash in both the medicinal and recreational cannabis user markets. And why not? *Indica* strains do tend to have a high degree of potency and may provide quick and lasting relief from a variety of physical pains and other symptoms that are directly or indirectly linked to illness. Plus they tend to be easier and quicker to grow as well: No small consideration for the cultivator.

However, for some, the *indica* ride is not what they are looking for to treat their symptoms or to function in a way that allows them to meet their daily goals and objectives. *Indica*-dominant effects, while occasionally psychedelic or trippy, tend to have a strong physical and more narcotic effect. While not suggesting that these Kushy strains act like depressants, they typically don't produce the stronger more pronounced energetic mental high that is more characteristic of *sativa*-dominant strains.



From left: Young *sativas* vegging; mastering the art of training your plants will maximize yields.

Indoors



“High” vs. “Stoned”

Many younger marijuana users may hardly be able to recount any experiences with *sativa* strains, and older ones from generations ago have difficulty recollecting when they last encountered a good *sativa* strain from their garden, dispensary or coffeeshop. *Sativa* buds tend to smell and taste more “spicy” or “woody”. In fact, walking into a room after someone has smoked a *sativa* strain is like walking into an exotic spice shop—it’s a symphony for finer-tuned senses. The effects of *sativas* are typically more “up” versus Kush or other *indica*-dominant strains. Patients who may prefer *sativas* are those that want a “happy” or “euphoric” sensation, without the strong, physically sedating effects. It’s like having a cup or two of coffee with a side of “giggles.” *Sativa* highs can be quite functional, and make no mistake, they can be extremely potent. Some strains, for example Mako Haze (Kiwi Seeds), have tested over 20 percent THC.

Sativa highs can be quite functional, and make no mistake, they can be extremely potent.

Growing *Sativas*

For designated growers, the lore surrounding the lanky, unruly growth habits and longer flowering times associated with *sativas* has kept some incredible strains more difficult for patients to access.

Growers can cultivate *sativas* with consistent success. In fact, they may prefer the typically heavier yields per square foot of growing space that *sativa*-dominant strains may offer.

When considering the growth rates, yields, medicinal qualities and bag appeal that today’s super *sativas* offer, it seems both growers and consumers are missing out on a very good thing in some places.

Growing *indica*-dominant strains medicinally indoors typically means a lot of veg time (to get the plants to a stature that will offer a decent yield) because most of these strains don’t produce much new growth after being flipped into the bud phase; if they do it’s mostly a stretching at the stems, which does not significantly increase yield mass potential. On top of that,

they're often slower growers in the vegetative stage too.

On the other hand, a *sativa*-dominant strain can produce a lot of new flowering sites during the bud phase very quickly, so growers need only vegetate their plants to 12 or 24 inches tall for high yielding plants that may finish as 4' round bushes or even bigger. It also takes less light energy to do it when you consider that even at a longer *sativa* flowering period of 12 weeks, the plants required a fraction of the veg time (18+ light hours). Basically, savvy super *sativa* growers can produce bigger yields in the same time, using less electricity, when they bank on super *sativa* growth rates in the bud phase.

The *Sativa* Stretch

Sometimes these super growth rates can catch less experienced medicinal growers by surprise, leading into a battle between the plant and the grower for the crop to finish within the vertical space available.

Following is a guide that can help you tame the beasts that are super *sativas*; allowing you to grow with jungle fever, even where space may be slightly limited. Following the guide, you'll be able to grow *sativas* with a level of control and precision that you typically only find with "table" crops that are grown with very high individual planting densities in shorter, tight finishing plants. Even with lower plant numbers, medical growers can potentially produce more high quality bud, using less electricity while offering medicinal qualities that are becoming a premium in today's *indica* dominated medicinal marketplace.

Gene Pool

Like every crop, successful harvests depend on starting out with good quality genetics. There are lots of great *sativas* out there, and, if you're willing to start from seed, there's even more choices available. While *sativas* can have a range of flowering times, something that finishes within 12 weeks after budding is started is advisable; even if there is up to 20% *indica* in the mix to keep flowering times and growth habits more manageable. How many seeds you're going to need to start will depend on whether you're growing feminized or regular seeds, how much space you have available, the desired container size at finish (bigger is better), the number of lights you are going to use, and of course how long you can vegetate the plant for to build growth structure.



Once seedlings have established and become young vegetative plants, growth rates become exponential, especially if you have started from regular seed versus feminized seed or older clone stock. Now you can either pinch, bend or tie the upper growing branches down to encourage bushier, wider growth which also helps fill in space for bigger yields while conserving vertical height. Applications of kelp extracts and B-vitamin supplements also promote bushier growth and may increase overall rates of growth. Beneficial bacteria and fungi solutions can also be applied at the roots, so your plants can grow a bigger root system that can process more water and nutrients.

Initially, plant your sprouted seeds or rooted cuttings into 6" pots or 1-gallon containers. Within about 10 to 14 days, they'll be ready for transplant into larger containers for the vegetative growth phase. Super *sativas* should never encounter restricted root growth—it will stunt yield potential. In this setup, plants will finish with two plants per 1000-watt lamp, so 10-gallon containers were used for a five-week vegetative period (from seed) before final transplant into the 20-gallon size just prior to initiating the bud cycle.

Screening *Sativas*

Once the bud phase begins, *sativas* usually like to stretch for the first few weeks after the change, which can be used to the grower's advantage to use fewer plants to fill a given space for high yields of dense sticky buds. As within the vegetative stage, branches can be trained to grow laterally through early flowering, in this instance through a galvanized wire mesh screen which will also help to support the heavy flowering tops later. Make sure the support you construct is secure and sturdy. Positioning the wire frame just above the plants when you initiate flowering (12/12 light cycle) gives some resistance to the plants as they tend to make efforts to reach for the sky when the light cycle changes. Supplying carbohydrate supplements just prior to or at the onset of flowering also helps to reduce stretching in the super *sativas* growth before they slow vertical growth and start filling out the flowering sites to yield massive colas.

From top: Growing shoots begin to penetrate the screen at canopy level; lower branches below the screen must be trimmed off; *sativas* need plenty of space to thrive.

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Lighting *Sativas*

Sativas benefit from lots of intense light. Air-cooled reflectors help keep grow room temps from rising above optimal and lets the super *sativa* tops finish closer to the light source for increased density because the buds aren't overheating.

Keeping a tighter difference between day and night temperatures at the onset of bud development further helps to cut down on the *sativa* stretch factor. In this Canadian medical grow, the heat from the gas-fired carbon dioxide generator is captured via water radiator and is blown back through the air during the dark cycle. This cuts down the heat when it is unwanted during lights on, and gives it back when the lights go out and the room begins to cool off. Avoiding high humidity levels and big swings in those levels also encourages tighter and healthier growth in medicinal *sativa* crops.

Sativa Support

Make sure you have lots of support for *sativas*. As they begin to mature, the buds can be enormous and heavy; a very nice problem to have for growers! *Sativas* typically prefer lighter crop feedings, and should be allowed to have a longer flush period to reduce any accumulated fertilizer residues



Clockwise: Lighting must be adequate for successful *sativa* harvests; a light meter measures available lumens at canopy level.



before the plants are harvested.

If you give your super *sativas* lots of light, space for growth and room for the roots, you stand to harvest some heavy yields of out-of-this-world connoisseur quality buds that promote a more active and functional effect that offers patients and recreational users a welcome alternative to the popular selections of today.

Happy growing! 🌱

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The Cannabis of **cauca**

Since 1964, the department of Cauca in Colombia has witnessed thousands of killings as the guerrillas of FARC (Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia, or the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia) and the Colombian government's military and security services wage war against each other. Both coca and cannabis are cultivated in the lush mountains here, and fierce battles have been waged for control of the region. Hundreds of thousands of civilians have fled the rural areas for the safety of the cities. But there are many who have stayed and rely on cannabis crops for their survival. Two journalists ventured into the mountains of Cauca and filed this report.

By Diana María Pachón, Photos by Carlos Villalón

The blast of wind delivers the smell of wild-growing cannabis, a pungently sweet scent mingled with the smells of the rainforest. The marijuana bush—hidden in the cities and hunted by the police—grows higher in this part of the country than the coffee plants, and its fragrance is far more intense than any other local vegetation. At times, the breeze is suffused with the scent.

There are three of us riding on motorcycles. The guide, a white guy around 25 years old, leads the way. Next comes Carlos, the photographer. I'm last, following just a few meters behind.

Separating
male from
female plants
in the field.





Farmers transport crops on a horse and motorcycle to the drying area.

Plants grown from seeds exhibit vigor that clones can sometimes lack.

Yesterday, while we were drinking coffee and sitting on a sidewalk in El Palo, a young guy who looked no different from any other in the region—dark, short, with a tiny mustache—told us that they were waiting for us “up there.” The phrase was compelling: “Up there” meant the mountains. “Up there” meant guerrillas. “Up there” was where we wanted to go.

And so we’re ascending a muddy and meandering trail that runs from El Palo, a village in Caloto north of Cauca, to Tacueyó. Half an hour after our departure, we arrive at the only house in the area and leave our bikes under its eave.

The young guy we met in El Palo is there. He goes to the back of the house and returns a moment later, signaling for us to follow him.

We hike through a jungle of banana trees, corn, coffee and coca. We walk in silence as the sound of a stream grows louder. Even though the land belongs to the natives and the peasants, the guerrillas of FARC monitor everything—and they don’t like strangers.

“People have to obey,” our guide says simply. “They represent the law in the mountains.”

Under an arbor, a big man dressed in a white T-shirt and blue jeans sits

waiting for us. His blue eyes have the look of a person who has lost any sense of pity or compassion. He doesn’t bother to introduce himself. He isn’t here to be interviewed; he’s here to question us.

He asks us who we are and why we’ve come. We tell him we’re journalists hoping to visit the marijuana cultivations and meet the growers. With each of our answers, he searches our eyes to confirm that what we’re saying is true.

After a few questions, he lets down his guard and the questioning becomes more of a conversation. “Poor peasants,” he says. “They do whatever they can. We don’t bother them and they don’t bother us. Sometimes we act as mediators in the disputes. The government abandoned this region for a long time, and we have had to assume the authority.”

Our interrogation is short, maybe 15 minutes. The man remains in his chair and watches as we depart so he can then disappear unseen back into the mountains. (Later, we find out that he was the head of a militia.)

The following morning, we cross the stream we’ve been hearing since the beginning of the journey and continue on our trek. In time, we come upon 2,000 marijuana plants reaching three meters

high. Corinto, or Corinthian, is the strain. The most common strain in Colombia these days is Santa Marta Golden, which has been grown in the departments of Magdalena and Cesar in northern Colombia ever since demand exploded during the ’70s. (The “departments” in Colombia are similar to US states or Canadian provinces.) Corinto is produced in the department of Cauca, which is situated in southwestern Colombia and borders the Pacific Ocean.

According to Martín Sepúlveda, a chemical engineer from Universidad Nacional, the THC content of marijuana growing in the north of the country and in Cauca, in the west, measures at extremely low levels—no more than 2 percent. But in terms of the cannabis gene pool, Santa Marta Golden and Corinto each possess links to the high-end, horticulturally enhanced strains prized throughout the world.

In Colombia, kind bud is commonly known as *cripi*, and it’s far more costly than Corinto. But Corinto is actually preferred by many Colombians, who find *cripi* too intense. To say the least, Corinto is a milder buzz, and it’s also easier on the wallet. Some Corinto crops go to Europe, but the bulk of it stays in-country.

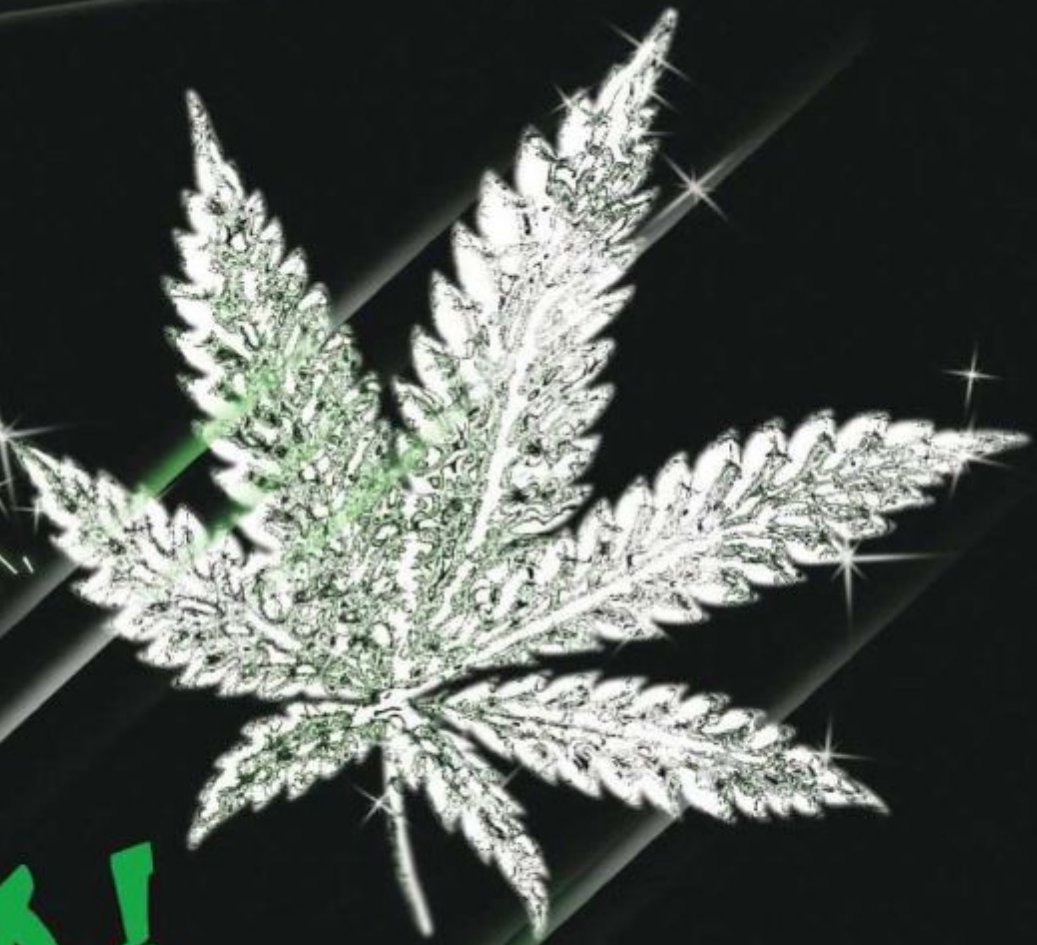
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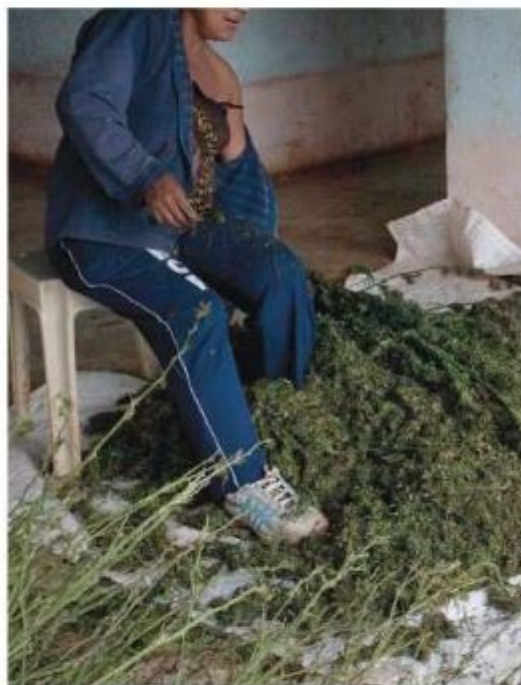


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Carmen is the owner of the stream, the banana trees and, of course, the expansive field. She greets us respectfully, in a manner characteristic of the natives, lowering her eyes when facing someone unknown to her and smiling shyly. She is 41, with dark, naïve eyes that provide a poignant contrast to her thick and aging hands. She wears a plain white skirt and a pink shirt with no print. Her hair is gathered in a bun held with a piece of stocking. She wears no earrings or necklaces.

She tells us of a Dutchman who arrived in this same place three years ago. When he saw the field, he lost his sanity, diving into the plants, running through them and rubbing his arms, face and legs with the leaves. I decide to emulate that Dutchman, but on a



Trimming plants is a laborious task. After hours of work, hands are covered in resin.

significantly less unnerving scale: I rip off a leaf and rub it in my hand to smell its perfume.

Ah, the forbidden leaf, as well-known as the Coca-Cola logo, with millions of devotees throughout the world. I turn to Carmen. “Have you smoked marijuana?” I ask.

She laughs as innocently as a child would. She answers “no”—a prolonged noooo. The people here know how to sow the seeds, they know how to dry, press and sell it, but they don’t know how to roll a joint, much less the feeling of being high. The ones smoking it are the “settlers”—the city folk.

Carmen doesn’t own a car or a motorcycle. The only luxury she has is her TV set. She says that her husband treats her well, then laughs once again. Husbands

in this part of Cauca have to be faithful: In the same way that the guerrillas solve money issues between growers and drug lords, they also mediate issues involving women—not because of conservative values, but because they seek to avoid the spectacle of fights between deceived women, or between men armed with machetes.

After discussing the marital benefits of the region, Carmen says that if it wasn’t for the marijuana crops, she would have already left for Cali with a sign claiming

4,760,000 pesos (\$2,710.70), is all the money she’ll have until the next harvest, six months away.

To start a new garden, Carmen must prepare the soil, buy a pound of seeds at 10,000 pesos (\$5.69), invest 1 million pesos (\$569.47) in various pieces of equipment, and pay the salary of the three workers who help her trim. Each worker earns 20,000 pesos (\$11.38) for a 12-hour workday, and they toil seven days a week.

After leaving Carmen’s plantation, we again make our way toward Tacueyó, an indigenous village on a reservation of the Nasa community. Upon arrival, the first thing one sees is an Evangelical church. A man dressed in a woolen suit distributes leaflets warning of the sins of the soul and the sufferings of Hell.

But just five kilometers away, hidden among the mountains (where everything illegal in Colombia is situated), a greenhouse stands—one of more than 100 in the region. The owner is a white man with an accent that stamps him as hailing from the department of Antioquia. He lights a joint inside the enclosure where 200 plants of cripi thrive, each one already one meter high. “The ones on this side are White Widow; the other ones are Skunk #11,” he says.

They’re just two of approximately 30 varieties of cripi that are grown in Colombia. Others include Super Star, Fulanita, American Golden, Purple #1 and Blueberry. The price of an envelope of five seeds varies from 50,000 pesos (\$28.47) to 250,000 pesos (\$142.36)—far higher than Corinto, which costs only 10,000 pesos (\$5.69) for 100 seeds. But cripi is harvested in less time, and an arroba is sold for 6,250,000 pesos (\$3,559.22), almost 40 times more than Corinto. Even so, the peasant farmers still prefer Corinto.

“The cultivation of the imported seeds is a white man’s business,” says Don Gustavo. He’s a farmer tending 5,000 Corinto plants and living in a remote town of only 26 houses. Don Gustavo has three sons and a granddaughter—and they still don’t know what marijuana is and what it’s good for.

Eduardo, the oldest son, wants to study civil engineering. While attempting to save up the money to study in Cali, he oversees the family business. He says that one year ago, he took 20 arrobas of weed to the municipality of Corinto to

to be homeless and exiled.

“If I sell my bananas, I have to pay for transportation, which costs 20,000 pesos [\$11.38], to Santander de Quilichao, which is two hours away. If I sell five hands of bananas, they give me 7,000 pesos. And if I don’t sell them, I have to throw them away. Marijuana is different. The buyers come here, they pay cash and leave without asking any questions.”

Each of her plants yields approximately 350 grams. Two thousand plants yield 700,000 grams, 1.4 pounds or 56 arrobas. In this region, the current price of an arroba (which run from 11 to 15 kg) is 170,000 pesos (\$96.81). In a month, after Carmen harvests, she’ll earn 9,250,000 pesos (\$5,267.65), which will be divided with her partner, another peasant. Her half of the sale, about

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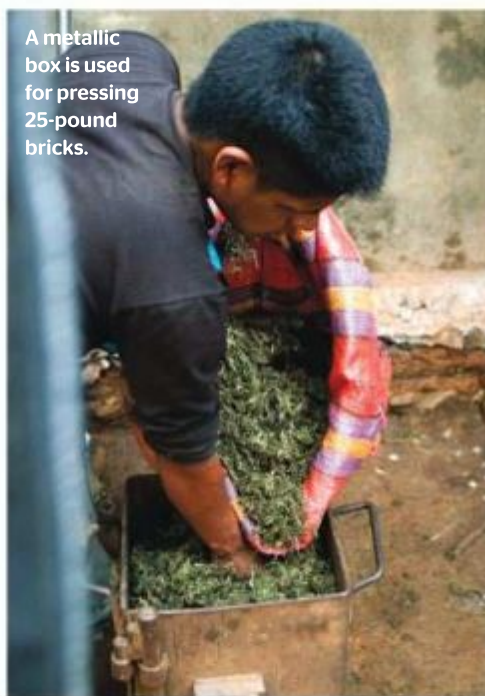
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sell them to a client coming from Medellín. With his mother, Luz Angela, they packed the merchandise into the back of the car as well as the front seat. Eduardo was forced to travel hanging out the window of the passenger side.

“We had a cell phone on, and every five minutes we called people we knew that lived on the road, to see if there were any soldiers on the way,” he recalls. “We were almost there when we lost the signal. The only thing to do then was to entrust ourselves to Virgin Mary. Though she is never one to stay quiet, my mother drove in silence, as if she could sense something was about to happen. When we got to a curve, we saw an infantry brigade that was unloading gear on one side of the road. ‘Son of a bitch!’ my mother cursed. I did, too: ‘Son of a bitch, they caught us!’”

As Eduardo tells the story, Luz Angela crosses herself to thank God for sparing her life. “My mother continued at the same speed. One of the soldiers held up his hand, indicating for us to stop.”

The Colombian military generally doesn’t bother about cultivation; the guerrillas, who are organized and strong, are its main concern. But in this case, the soldiers would certainly seize their harvest, and arrest was likely.



A metallic box is used for pressing 25-pound bricks.

Eduardo and his mother had no choice. “Most times, you can bribe them with money or give them a pound,” he continues. “But that day we couldn’t, because there were too many. When they’re in a gang, there is nothing one can do.”

As they neared the soldiers, Luz Angela accelerated the car. The soldiers began firing. “The bullets were

everywhere,” Eduardo says. “Not just from behind, but from the mountains, from everywhere! I ducked down in the car and closed my eyes.”

Miraculously, they made it clear that day, and the soldiers opted not to give pursuit. But the omnipresent danger that Eduardo and his family face in order to survive in their rural mountain homeland is always on their minds.

In the middle of a soccer field, a pair of men place freshly harvested weed on a canvas that has been extended across the grass. Inside a nearby house, a woman who is seven months pregnant uses scissors to cut hundreds of buds from the stalks. They fall to the floor, burying her feet. She has been trimming for six hours, and her spine hurts due to the weight of her belly. Her fingers are covered with the sticky black resin that can be turned into Colombian finger hash, which sells for 400 pesos (\$0.22) per gram.

A 12-year-old girl spreads out the skirt of her uniform under the feet of the pregnant woman and, with her clean fingers, digs out the seeds from the branches.

“Do you know what marijuana is good for?” I ask her.

“For the flu—and the seeds are to be given to the chickens.”



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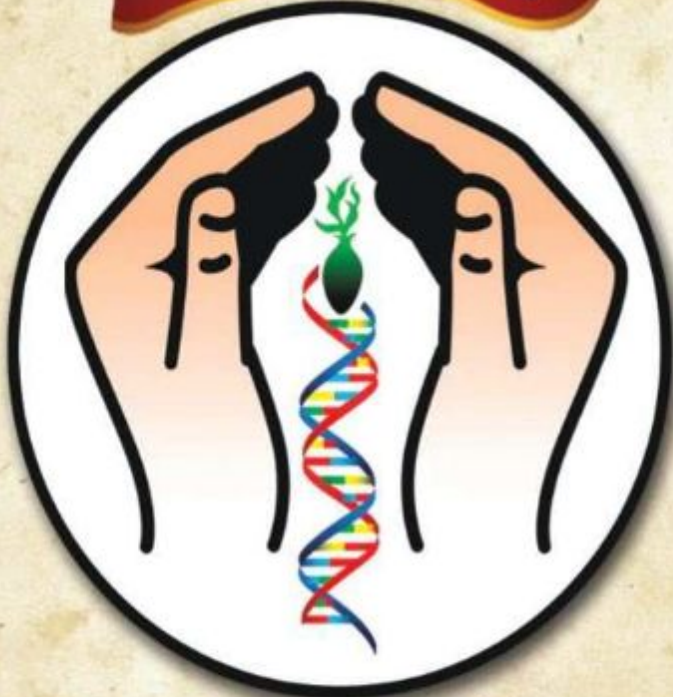


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Up in the mountains, the inhabitants are also learning the healing virtues of marijuana. A group of six natives, led by chemists from Universidad del Valle in Cali, process the plant and manufacture

special ointments to relieve coughs, rheumatism, neuralgia and muscular pains. Apart from the ointments for therapeutic use, they also manufacture cosmetic products such as essences, perfumes and soaps. But because of the illegality of marijuana, the articles are only marketed in that general area.

“If there are people inhaling gasoline and glue, why doesn’t anybody forbid those things? Alcohol and cigarettes are much more harmful, but all of that moves a lot of money,” says Don Gustavo angrily.

Then he calms himself. He sees a white man waiting for him at the entrance to his home. Don Gustavo disappears inside with him. When he returns, he says that he has an order to press and pack 25 arrobas for the following day.

The press is a hydraulic jack hovering over a steel box. The marijuana is placed inside the box with a board on top. The jack then presses the weed into a compact arropa square, ready to be packed

in a black bag that is completely covered with tape to mask the scent. The press’s owner gets paid 5,000 pesos (\$2.84) for each arropa; during the week, he packs up to 70. Traffickers who arrive in the region pay a war tax to the guerrillas of 18,000 pesos (\$10.25) for each arropa. But no such tax is charged to the peasants. Each week, up to 30 tons come out of Cauca to be distributed throughout Colombia.

Before noon, the arrobas are packed, sealed and organized in a corner of the courtyard. Don Gustavo’s arm is aching, and he sits on one of the arrobas. Facing him are three chickens pecking the ground in search of any tasty cannabis seeds they may have missed.

We travel back to Bogotá with our clothing reeking of herb. On the plane home, I think of Carmen, a simple-hearted, courteous peasant woman who knows no malice. I think of Eduardo and his mother barely surviving the bullets of the soldiers. I think of a woman seven months pregnant trimming for six hours straight, and a young girl who thinks that marijuana is only good for the flu and to feed the chickens.

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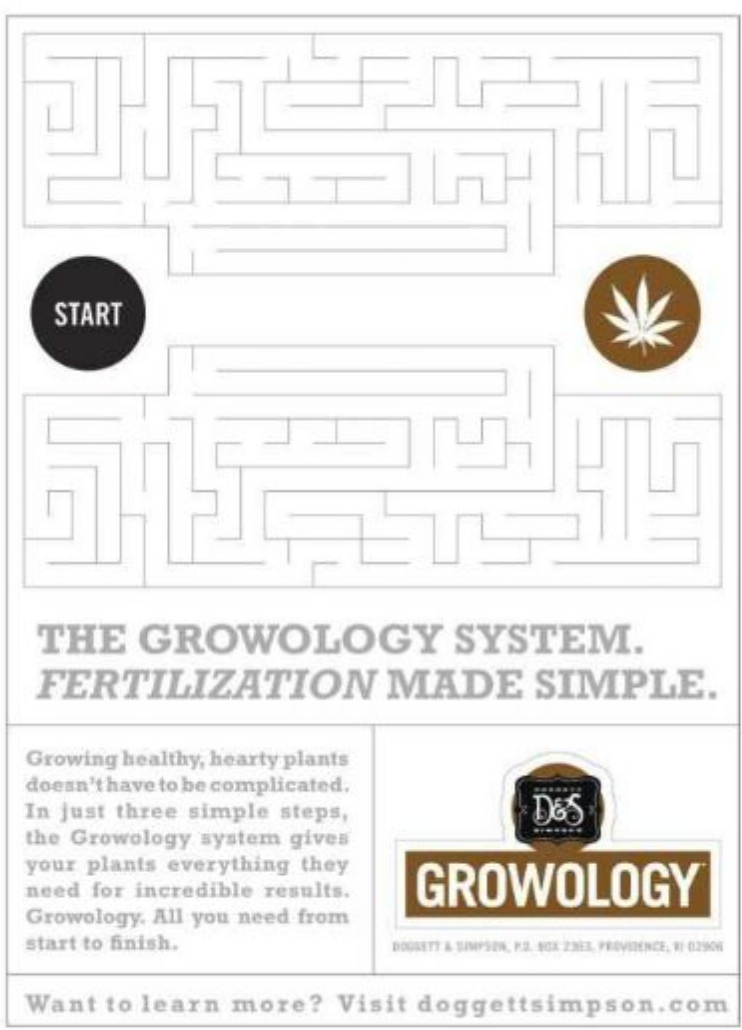
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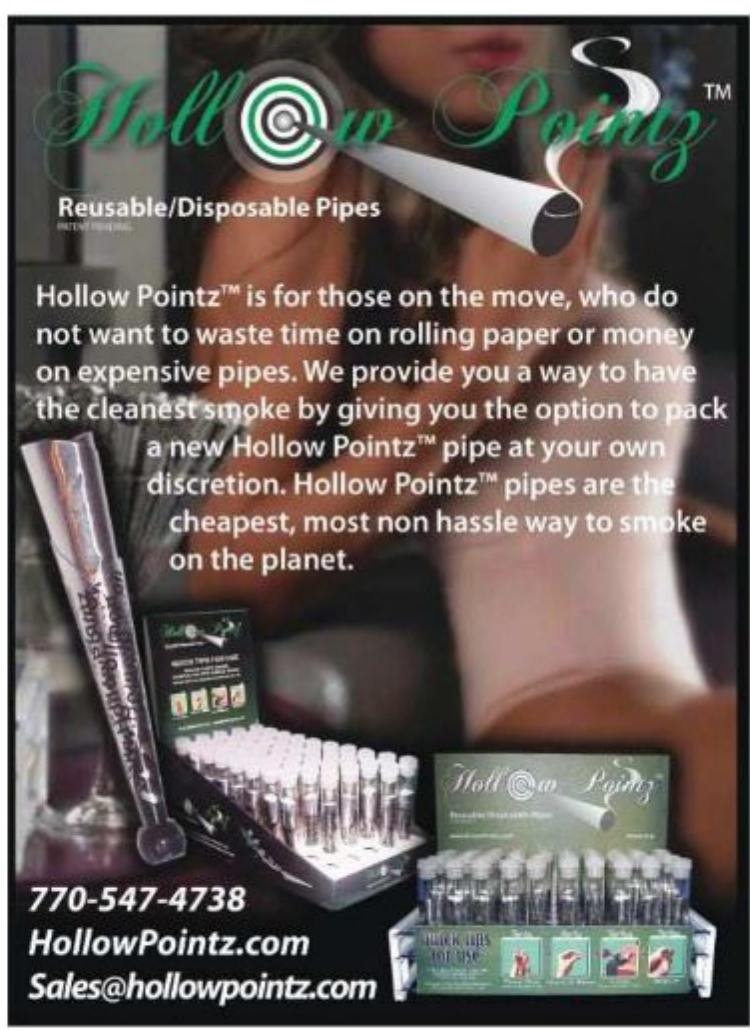
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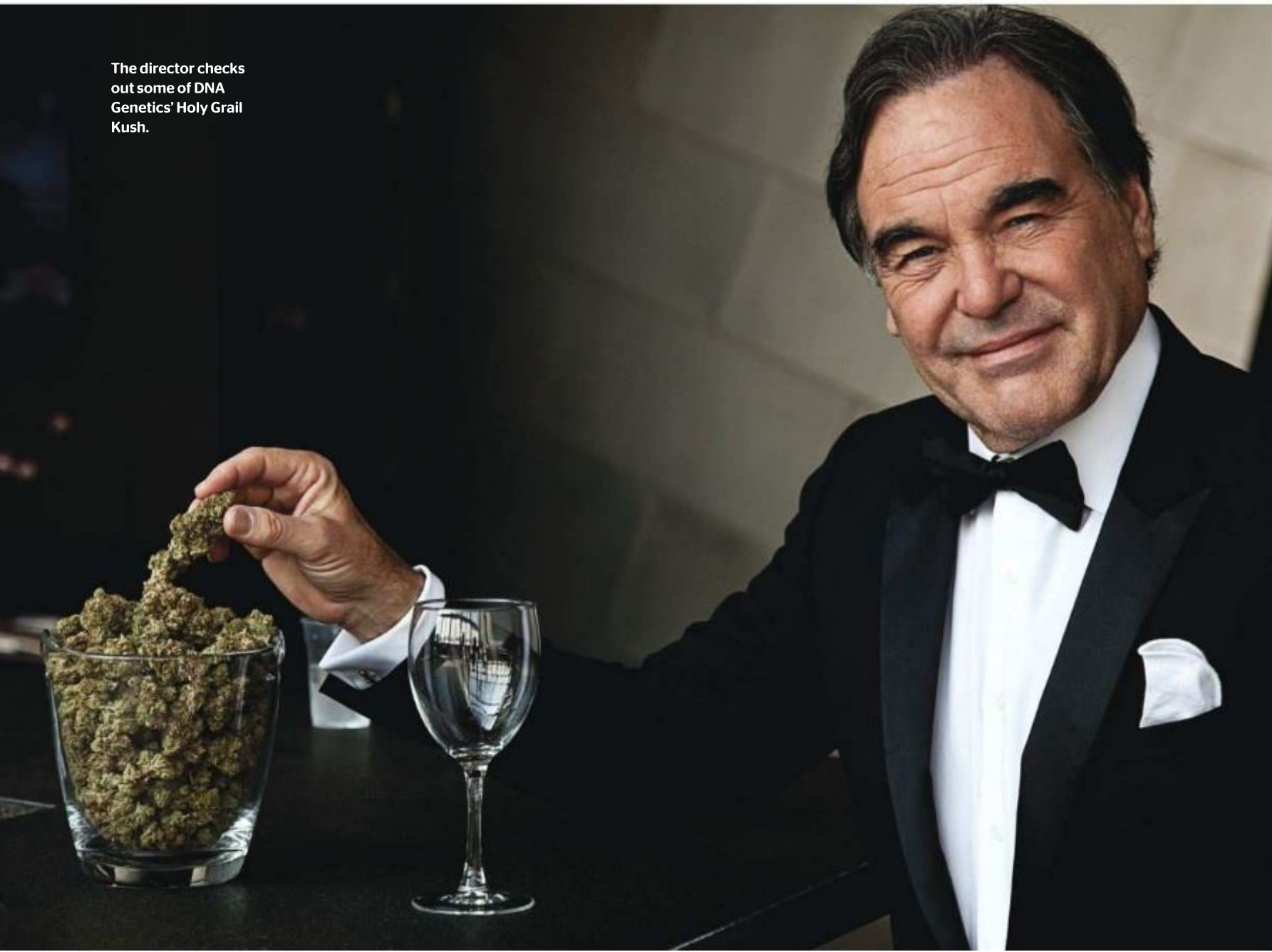
by CHRIS SIMUNEK
Photos by MARK MANN

OLIVER STONE

The Academy Award-winning director discusses pot, the global drug war and his new movie, *Savages*. Along the way, he samples some of California's finest.

THE HIGH TIMES INTERVIEW

The director checks out some of DNA Genetics' Holy Grail Kush.



IT SEEMS FITTING TO US THAT OLIVER STONE'S NEW MOVIE IS CALLED *SAVAGES*, BECAUSE WHEN *HIGH TIMES* SPOKE WITH HIM THIS PAST SPRING IN SANTA MONICA, THE OFTEN BESTIAL NATURE OF BOTH MAN AND THE POWER STRUCTURES HE CREATES WAS NEVER FAR FROM HIS THOUGHTS. VIOLENCE IS A TOPIC THAT OLIVER STONE HAS EXPLORED IN FILM MANY TIMES—POLITICAL VIOLENCE, CRIMINAL VIOLENCE, MILITARY VIOLENCE AND JUST PLAIN VIOLENCE-FOR-VIOLENCE'S-SAKE. IT'S A SUBJECT HE STARTED STUDYING YOUNG: AS AN IVY LEAGUE DROPOUT, STONE ENLISTED FOR A TOUR OF DUTY IN VIETNAM IN 1967 AND CAME BACK WITH A LEVEL OF INSIGHT INTO THE REALITIES OF AMERICAN FOREIGN INTERVENTION THAT THOSE OF US WHO HAVE NEVER BEEN ON ONE SIDE OR THE OTHER OF THIS COUNTRY'S MANY FRONTLINES CAN EVER FULLY KNOW.

DRUG ISSUES HAVE ALSO BEEN ADDRESSED, OFF AND ON, SINCE HE WON HIS FIRST ACADEMY AWARD IN 1978 FOR THE *MIDNIGHT EXPRESS* SCREENPLAY. A FEW YEARS LATER, HE WROTE *SCARFACE*, AND ONE COULD ARGUE THAT THE HORRORS OF DRUG PROHIBITION ARE A COMPELLING SUBTEXT IN BOTH FILMS. IN *MIDNIGHT EXPRESS*, WE SEE YOUNG POT-HEAD BILLY HAYES THROWN INTO A DANTESQUE TURKISH PRISON AFTER BEING CAUGHT SMUGGLING HASHISH, WHILE IN *SCARFACE*, WE WATCH NARCO-GOLEM TONY MONTANA SHOOT AND KILL HIS WAY TO POWER AND FORTUNE, EXPLOITING THE MANY OPPORTUNITIES THAT PROHIBITION OFFERS A MODERN-

DAY BOOTLEGGER UNAFRAID OF THE GUN.

AND WHILE DRUGS HAVE APPEARED IN MUCH OF STONE'S WORK SINCE THEN—WHETHER IT'S CHRIS IN *PLATOON* TAKING HIS FIRST HIT OF POT FROM THE BARREL OF A GUN, OR JIM MORRISON SEEING ACID INDIANS IN *THE DOORS*, OR NFL PLAYERS GORGING ON PRESCRIPTION DRUGS IN *ANY GIVEN SUNDAY*—*SAVAGES* PICKS UP DIRECTLY WHERE *SCARFACE* LEFT OFF, WITH THE IDEA THAT THE PROFIT MOTIVE THAT EXISTS WHEN DRUGS ARE ILLEGAL EASILY INDUCES PEOPLE TO ABANDON THEIR HUMANITY.

"After I got back from Vietnam in December '68, I was busted at the Mexican border carrying some Vietnamese pot back to the US."



BASED ON THE NOVEL OF THE SAME NAME BY DON WIN-SLOW, *SAVAGES* TELLS THE STORY OF BEN AND CHON (AARON JOHNSON AND TAYLOR KITSCH), POT DEALERS WHOSE MUTUAL GIRLFRIEND O (BLAKE LIVELY) IS KIDNAPPED BY A MEXICAN DRUG CARTEL TRYING TO TAKE OVER THEIR OPERATION. CARTEL SOLDIER LADO (BENICIO DEL TORO) HAS BEEN CHARGED WITH THE TASK OF MAKING SURE THE MERGER GOES THROUGH, AND HE'S NOT AFRAID TO SPILL GRINGO BLOOD ON THE SANDS OF LAGUNA BEACH ALONG THE WAY.

THEN THERE'S *THE UNTOLD HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES*, A 10-PART DOCUMENTARY COMING TO SHOWTIME THIS FALL, WHEREIN STONE EXAMINES THE LARGELY SUPPRESSED ASPECTS OF THIS COUNTRY'S MAJOR HISTORICAL EVENTS—PROVING THAT, WHILE HISTORY MAY BE WRITTEN BY THE WINNERS, THE SEARCH FOR TRUTH GOES ON LONG AFTER THE BOOKS ARE PUBLISHED.

In his novel *The Wild Boys*, William S. Burroughs writes: "Under pretext of drug control, suppressive police states have been set up throughout the Western world ... The police states maintain a democratic façade from behind which they denounce as criminals, perverts and drug addicts anyone who opposes the control machine." He wrote this in 1969, just as Nixon was conceiving the early stages of the Drug War. Has the Drug War become, as Burroughs predicted, an excuse to set up police states both at home and in other countries?

It's a strange usage of the word "war," because we were coming out of the Vietnam War and all of a sudden we were in the War on Drugs. Johnson had used the phrase "War on Poverty," so I believe that was where the usage came from. Seven or eight days after I got back from Vietnam in December '68, I was busted at the Mexican border carrying some Vietnamese pot back to the US. I was facing federal smuggling charges, a five- to 20-year sentence. I was put in jail in San Diego County, which had a capacity of 2,000, maybe 2,500, but had 5,000 kids inside—all young, most of them for drugs—and that was when I heard this term used: "There's this new thing coming" ... you know, the "War on Drugs." Because Nixon was coming into office in January '69, and sure enough, the guy kept pushing the "silent majority" and law and order. At that point, the country seemed to be on the cusp of embracing liberalism with the revolt against the Vietnam War, and the Nixon regime played into it—and was duplicitous in that regard. And then they really cracked down: People started to go to jail heavy, and the borders were starting to be looked at heavily, and pot became a "dangerous drug." Then, when Nixon got destabilized

and was removed from office after Watergate, it felt again like there would be a new era of liberalism, but that was stunted by the failure of the Carter presidency.

You know, there was a great excitement at that time. I was at the Democratic National Convention at Madison Square Garden in New York in 1976. It was the 200th anniversary of America, and with Carter there was such a sense of liberation. I remember that feeling of anticipation, but it never happened. The country never went that way; it went back to its Cold War roots with Reagan, who cracked down on drugs, and everything was given to greed and privatization, to making money and "just saying no" to drugs. It became a full-scale war and has grown into what it is today, essentially, close to a police state.

But the concept of meddling in other countries and cutting down on their illicit drugs became the next issue once they realized they couldn't contain our consumerism here. They went after the South American countries for cocaine and grass.

Is that part of what attracted you to *Savages*?

It was an exciting subject with a fresh take on the Mexican cartels and the independent growers of California. The nature of the book is a hypothetical situation: What if the cartels were to reach out and try to control the independent trade here in California? That concept is interesting and can be played hypothetically; whether it really happens, we will see.

Also, it was a chance for me to get back into another side of myself, which is still anarchic and rebellious. I loved the characters and the conflict. Half the cast is under 25 and the other half is over 40, so there's quite a generational conflict, too. We're just finishing and mixing the film.

As a representative of *High Times*, I truly hope you enjoy it. Certainly, if you appreciate California weed—as I have for many years—you’ll realize that we’re somewhat close to the money when we say that California has surpassed Thailand, Jamaica, South Sudan and certainly Mexico as the king *and* queen of quality weed. I’m thinking myself of getting into the business, although I suspect there’d be a lot of stress with the Feds changing the rules all the time ... those bastards.

We’ve tried to police our way out of the Mexican Drug War, and it’s only gotten worse. Could we legalize our way out of the Mexican problem, with these cartels as big and strong as they are right now?

It’s primarily an *American* problem, but it’s *become* a Mexican problem. We’ve created this morass with our anti-drug policy and the Drug Enforcement Administration and now ICE [Immigration and Customs Enforcement] merging the drug issue with immigration law and then merging it with the concept of terrorism—which is the next step, of course: The cartels are “narco-traffickers” and will become “narco-terror states” the next thing you know. And we’ve dislocated the Mexican economy to a large degree—not just with the Drug War, but with NAFTA. Everything we’ve done to Mexico ... you know, Porfirio Díaz was right: “Poor Mexico—so far from God, so close to the United States!”

If we legalized drugs and took the profit out of the marijuana, cocaine and heroin business, it would be an interesting relocation of world assets. Some people say that the money supply in the banks, the liquidity, would dry up right away. I don’t know enough about banking, but it would be very interesting to see the dislocations that would happen now if we were to go

back the other way. We *can’t* go on this way, because our prisons are completely stuffed, but the prison industries and their unions have no interest in changing that—the more prisoners, the more money for them. Schwarzenegger tried to reform this in California, but was effectively blocked by the prison guards’ union. It’s in their interest, like the military, to keep the money flowing.

There’s a new book by Michelle Alexander, *The New Jim Crow Laws* [see the review on page 34], and her thesis is that there are more African-Americans per capita in prison now than there were living under slavery in 1860—so she’s saying it’s a form of Jim Crow. We’re basically destroying the lives of so many young people, putting them in jail, men *and* women. It’s blighting the culture and coarsening our country.

I just watched your 2009 documentary *South of the Border*, and I was amazed at how the coup attempt against Hugo Chávez ran—if you replaced oil with copper—almost exactly

“California has surpassed Thailand, Jamaica, South Sudan and certainly Mexico as the king and queen of quality weed.”

like the successful coup against Salvador Allende 40 years ago. Do they just come up with a good script and keep using it?

Well, it’s an old story, you know—Allende was not the first. With Chávez, it was blatant, the US was caught, but this has gone on since the turn of the century. In 1898, with the Spanish-American War, we went into Cuba on the basis of helping liberate the Cubans from the Spanish



Ollie Marley

and ended up owning the island. We kept doing it in Haiti, all over the hemisphere; ours was a gangster’s racket done legally. The Panama Canal, the capture of resources in Central America, United Fruit, Guatemala—there were dozens of interventions, coups, backdoor deals ... a true cesspool in the backyard of our empire.

You know, it’s in our interest to try to avoid a coup

that’s too noisy. And often, the American people have no idea of what happened in any of these countries—but it does go on. After the very successful Guatemalan coup of 1954, our government kept at it in Brazil in ’64, they did it in the Dominican Republic, Peru, Bolivia ... Allende in Chile in 1972 was a big step, and because Nixon and Kissinger were suspected of being involved, it became a mess in the wake of Vietnam. Vietnam was supposedly the end of that era of American colonial adventurism; we thought with a big exclamation point that “we can’t do this anymore!” But Nixon and Kissinger proved they *could* do it, *right away*, in Chile. Elsewhere, too, it was going on—the next big country to fall to the secret war was Argentina in 1975.

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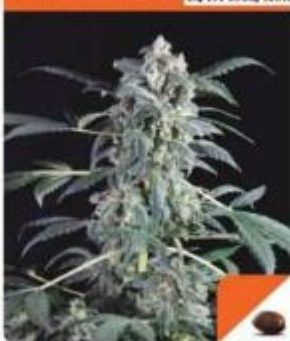
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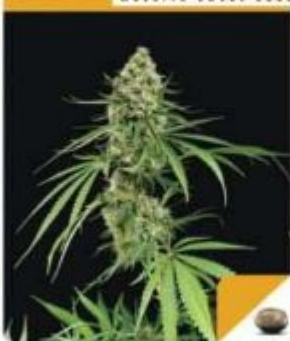
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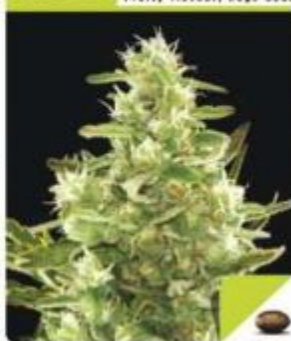
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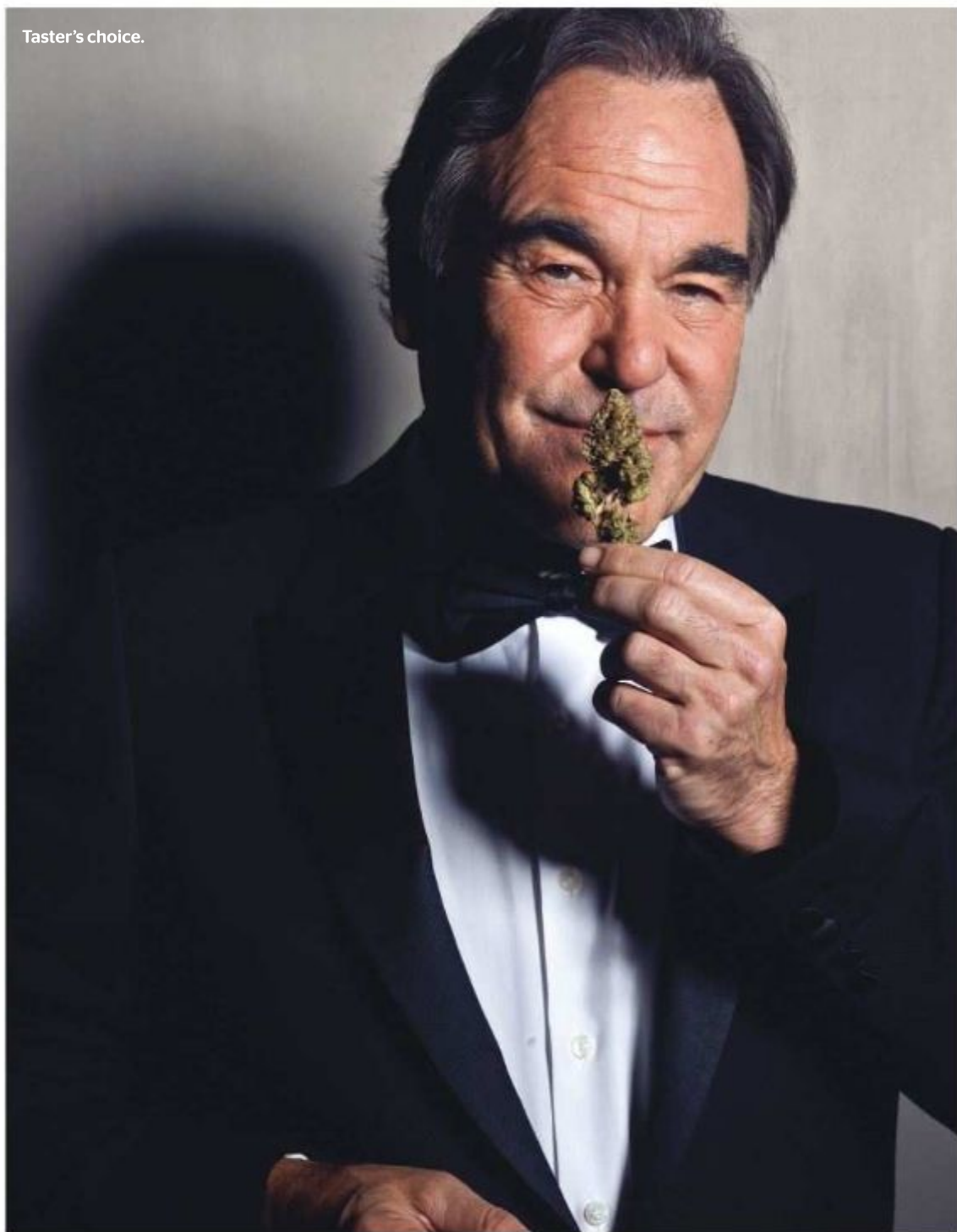
Americans, we were all over Central America in the 1980s. As you know, the benevolent-looking Ronald Reagan was an imperialist of the worst kind. More innocent people died under his watch, probably, than in all the previous interventions in South and Central America. And the intervention in Nicaragua was particularly ugly, with so many civilians murdered—but it went on and *on*.

The interesting thing about *South of the Border* was being able to witness a movement in South America that was really inspired by our disastrous economic policies from the 1980s. Basically, we were giving these countries, through the IMF and the World Bank, money under very tough conditions and controlling their economies and telling them what to do. People revolted against it, and in democratic elections across the board, many countries elected socialists or people of the left, including Chávez in Venezuela, Evo Morales in Bolivia, Rafael Correa in Ecuador, Cristina and Néstor Kirchner in Argentina, Lula da Silva in Brazil, Fernando Lugo in Paraguay—all of this came about because of our policies. Yet the American media wrote about it as if it had never happened because of us, and further implied that there was a “good left” and a “bad left,” and so we started the process of trying to divide these countries to win back our influence.

These new leaders made a big difference. If you talk to people in the street, they’ll tell you that these new, democratically elected leaders provided a tremendous lift to their spirits and their economy. Mark Weisbrot at the Center for Economic Policy and Research in Washington did a great deal of work on this. He’s very accurate on the economics and was a co-writer of our film, with Tariq Ali.

Obama’s a big disappointment to these people as, after

Taster’s choice.



all the phony talk, he kept the same people in place who work in the State Department on South American affairs—the same bureaucracy, the same mindset and the same repression. James Steinberg, the recently departed deputy secretary of state, was a powerful voice against such reform worldwide. Nor is Hilary Clinton any friend to reform.

We have new military bases in Colombia, which has created a deep rift in the region. We have a new South American military command, USSOUTHCOM, as we do

“The United States has reached a place of being almost universally hated by most every country in the world, except for a few dictators and the few people who benefit from making money with us.”

in Africa, that sails around countries like Brazil angering everyone with their show of force. The United States has reached a place of being almost universally hated by most every country in the world, except for a few dictators and the few people who benefit from making money with us. We occupy the role of international bully, policeman and, worse, covert interventionists. Which is a way of saying: If you don’t do things our way, we will rearrange your country—or if you *really* step out of line, we’re going to put

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It’s depressing that we never seem to learn anything from our global arrogance. But at the same time, in our media, we continue to blithely assume we’re the good guys. *Quel chutzpah, non?*

Tell me about this new documentary series you’re working on, *The Untold History of the United States*.

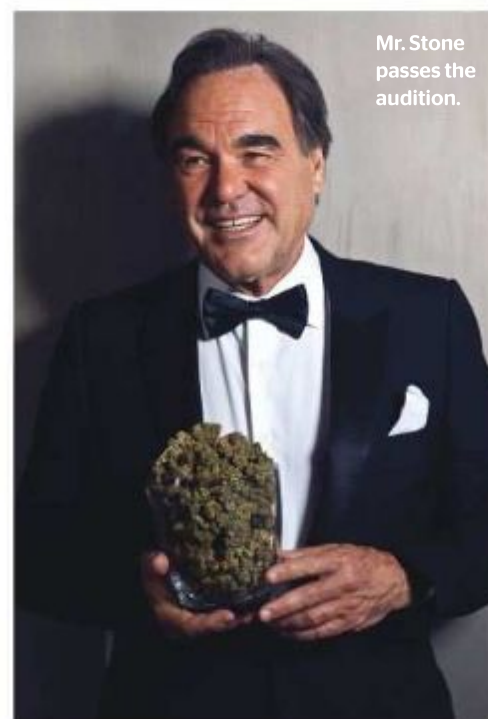
That’s an attempt to get a little sunlight into this land of fog. It’s the hardest thing I’ve ever done, and the most ambitious. I set out on this project four years ago with Peter Kuznick, who is an associate professor in the history department at American University and also the director of their Nuclear Studies Institute. His expertise is Hiroshima. We opened with a World War II chapter on the atomic bomb, and we got more and more involved and ended up saying, “Well, let’s take it all the way up to 2012.” It’s an interpretive history of major patterns from 1900 on; it starts in 1945, peels back to 1900, and then moves forward through the Cold War to today ...

It’s very hard to accomplish this in 10 hours. There have been so many events, but I think we’ve looked for the patterns that have determined our behavior—and to understand why, after World War II, we fell for this addiction to power and war. But the series took two years longer than we thought it would; we’re over budget and out of time. We were supposed to come out in May of this year, but because *Savages* was moved up to July, we’re coming out on Showtime in November.

My three children have all studied history. They’re all interested, but they don’t *really* understand American history any more than I did at their age. The texts are essentially ethnocentric: America always comes first ...

Look, many have made repeated fun of my sense of history in the past because I’ve gone out there as a dramatist and taken chances. But in this series, we have very solid evidence on our behalf. There’s a strength to this thing—it’s like leaving behind a legacy. This is for the kids, for the future. You didn’t hear about this history, because I didn’t get it in school—and I went to some pretty good schools. I want to finish my life right, and I want it to be the best work I’ve done ...

The other documentaries I enjoyed, but they were essentially road movies. This is a classic documentary done with



Mr. Stone passes the audition.

style, editing and a narrative that will make it entertaining to watch without saying, “Oh, I’ve seen this before.” That’s the secret. It’s the hardest thing to do, to make something fresh ... I’m not looking for fights—I just don’t want to run from what I think is the truth.

I’m curious—what do you think of the Occupy movement?

I think it’s what we need: an *awareness*. These people are echoing this time. For that, you have to be there, you have to show up, you have to take nonviolence and make it *active and interesting*, like that approach with the Guy Fawkes masks. By showing up and irritating the establishment at all these places—being tear-gassed, unfortunately, or hit with rubber bullets and all that shit, being beaten and jailed—it’s a necessity. Eventually, the great American proletariat will understand the state of oppression. You know they will when they have fought enough wars and when enough of their children have been taken away from them, and the economy has been decimated and so much of what’s good in this country has been destroyed.

The American people ... we’re privileged and we’re entitled, but we also have a bone of freedom left in us. I think we’re very smart—and we could be counterintuitive here—but these kids were really great to do what they did. There’s a lot of misunderstanding because the mainstream media controls so much of the public’s perception, and they cast them as, you know, the bad guys, whatever—the rebels. True rebels have a hard, *hard* time in this country. ✨

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SUBJECT: **Dry Right**

FROM: **Dave**

🌿 I've just harvested some bud, and my boy tells me to hang it and then put it into a paper bag for a week. Is he right, or is there a better way?

Dear Dave,
No, he's not right. Paper bags are not the ideal way to cure your buds. Hang them up until they're dry on the outside and the stems crack instead of bending. Then chop off all the excess branches and leaves and put the buds into glass jars. Open the jars daily to release the moist air trapped inside, and you'll have far better-tasting (and better-burning) buds than with the method your friend suggested.

Paper bags can impart a funky flavor to your buds, and they're also capable of absorbing moisture too quickly and, because they're permeable to air, drying everything out too quickly, leaving you with bad-tasting and poorly burning nuggets. Do yourself a favor and get some sealable glass jars to cure and store your buds.

Danko Tip: Foliar feeding during the vegetative stage doesn't just provide mild levels of nutrients and clean off the leaves; it also weighs down the plant with water weight, making leaves and branches stronger and better able to support heavy buds.



Always keep flowering rooms clean from the ceiling to the floor.

SUBJECT: **Hydro to Soil**

FROM: **Tex**

🌱 Could a person root a seedling or clone hydroponically and then veg it the rest of the way in a soilless mix? How difficult is it to transfer between systems?

Dear Tex,

Yes, a person absolutely can root a clone or start a seedling in a hydroponic system and then move it into a soilless mix for the duration of vegetative and flowering growth. The key is to be very gentle with the roots (and dig a proper hole in the soilless mix in which to place them). In hydroponics, the roots are either developing in a medium such as rock-wool, coco peat or grow rocks, or simply dangling in water and mist. If they're in a medium, place them gently into your mix. If they're dangling in the air, that makes it a bit more difficult. Spread the roots into the hole you've dug in the soilless mix, taking care to ensure that the taproot (main root) goes deep into the medium. Backfill the hole carefully and water the plant in. You should see new growth within a couple of days as the roots adjust to their new home.

SUBJECT: **Autoflowering Seeds**

FROM: **Jay**

🌱 My question is about autoflowering seeds: Tell me more about them, please. Are they

100 percent reliable, and how big will the plants get before they start to bud? How do they flower without having to reduce the light cycle? Do the buds get as big as regular plants do?

Dear Jay,

Autoflowering seeds are all the rage lately, as they're easy to grow and finish as quickly as 80 days from planting. As for their reliability, that depends on the source. Seed companies that have been around for years are your best bet. Typically, autoflowering plants grow to about 1 or 2 feet tall before they begin to bloom, but some newer *sativa*-dominant varieties such as Haze Automatic from Dinafem can grow up to 3 to 4 feet before they start to flower.

The reason the plants flower automatically—meaning without a decrease in the light cycle—is that the breeders have added ruderalis genes from regions with very short flowering seasons (such as northern Russia); these plants have acclimated to their climate by developing the ability to flower regardless of photoperiod. These genes typically don't produce plants with high levels of THC, so the breeders must carefully work with them and test them to ensure that potency levels are maintained.

The buds from an autoflowering plant will grow as big as regular ones, but you'll have fewer buds and branches to choose from due to the shortened

vegetative period. The plant can only get so big before it starts to flower and dedicates all of its energy to producing buds.

SUBJECT: **Pollinating Females**

FROM: **Smokey McBongwater**

🌱 Here's an idea I came up with that I thought you might be interested in: When I pollinate my females, I usually do so with a small paintbrush by dipping it into the male pollen from a container and then applying that pollen directly to certain pistils. This way, only some seeds are produced in the plant while leaving the rest of the buds seedless. So I was thinking: Why not "paint" male pollen from various strains onto different portions of the same female, resulting in numerous seed strains popping from the initial main strain (i.e., the female) that you wanted to cross all the others with (as opposed to growing out a separate female for each male)? Assuming this could work, it would allow you to get different genetic strains from just one female plant. So what do you think? I'm considering trying this in the near future.

Dear Smokey,

It is possible to pollinate the same female with different male genetics, but you have to be very careful with the pollen and make sure you label the branches properly, with the right male listed for each one. That way, you'll get a wide variety of different seed stocks from the same female based on the types of males you use. Keep in mind that all of the seeds will have half the genes of the female plant, so they'll all be inherently half-related. Grow out the seeds from the different branches and choose the strongest seedlings with the most desirable traits to continue growing in your garden, and you'll soon find some keepers to hang onto as mother plants.

SUBJECT: **Must Have Gas**

FROM: **PolarMan**

🌱 Do I really need CO₂ to grow great bud? I've heard answers either way, so I'd like to get your opinion.

Dear PolarMan,

As long as you have good circulation with plenty of fresh air entering your grow space, it's not absolutely essential to supplement the area with carbon dioxide gas.

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Danko Tip: Pin up a few dollar bills onto trees in the area where you plan to grow outdoors. If they're still there later, you're good to grow—but if they're gone, find another location.

High CO₂ levels can increase bud size by quite a bit when all the other factors are properly in place, but CO₂ injection isn't necessary to grow cannabis flowers unless you're using a completely sealed room that gets no infusions of fresh air. CO₂ levels in the air are generally in the range of 300 to 400 ppm (parts per million), while cannabis can handle up to 1,500 ppm and thrive.

SUBJECT: **Organic Fertilizers**

FROM: **DoubleTT82**

🌱 I'm doing a lot of research into what I need to start growing my own. The one thing I'm having trouble with is my fertilizers. I've been growing veggies for many years in my garden and in pots. I've always used store-bought, dry organic fertilizers with standard potting soil (i.e., Miracle-Gro). I'm going to grow for medical use in a non-medical state, so I want my bud to be the best that it can be. I'll be using your soilless mix for my first try. I'd love to use compost tea, but I don't have a place to put it outside my house. What fertilizers would you recommend in the place of compost tea? Thanks, *High Times*, and keep up the great work you guys are doing!

Dear DoubleTT82,

I don't recommend using Miracle-Gro products for cannabis, for a number of reasons. The company's lab-produced fertilizers are made using formulas that include all kinds of harmful materials (such as sludge, urea and waste) that shouldn't even be allowed in fertilizers to be used on products for human consumption. Even Miracle-Gro's "organic" lines are suspect, in my opinion.

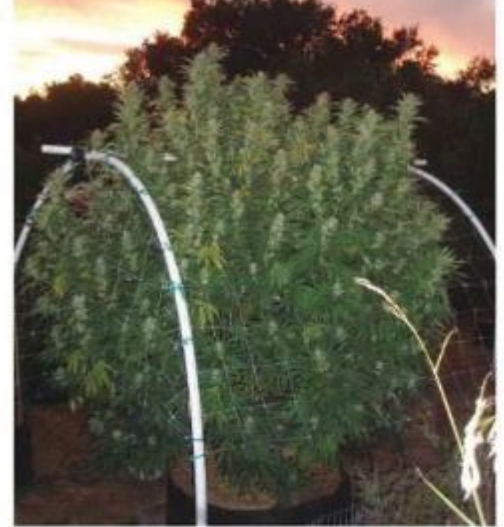
As for real organic products you can buy at the store (as opposed to making your own compost tea), I like the selections from companies such as Earth Juice, FoxFarm, Canna, Nature's Nectar, Technaflora, Advanced Nutrients, Botanicare and General Organics.

SUBJECT: **Vegetative Times**

FROM: **Ole**

🌱 I have a simple question: How long do I have to let a plant stay in the vegetative stage before I can change the light cycle to 12/12 and force it into bud? What would be the minimum amount of time—is it six to eight weeks?

A trellis system protects this outdoor plant from broken branches.



Dear Ole,

There's no minimum amount of time to begin the flowering stage. Some growers start flowering shortly after their clones have rooted or their seedlings have popped out. This is known as "Sea of Green" growing, and it results in many small plants that stay short and stocky. The lower yields are compensated for by the shorter growing cycle, since these growers typically harvest five gardens per year indoors.

Ideally, the plant should have at least a few weeks of vegetative time to develop a root system capable of growing bigger buds. The longer the vegging time, the larger your container should be and the more you'll harvest per plant. Add 1 gallon of container space for each week of flowering (i.e., five weeks of flowering requires at least a 5-gallon container). Also, fewer plants typically mean less severe penalties under a worst-case scenario, so keep that in mind as well.

SUBJECT: **Clone-Only?**

FROM: **Adam from the Birthplace of Bubblegum**

🌱 After reading your "Strongest Strains" edition of *HIGH TIMES*, (great work, by the way), I must ask: Why can't I get Banana Kush? I've heard of this strain many times, and now I see it's third on your list, which only drives me more insane because we don't have dispensaries in my area and this strain doesn't seem to be available in seed form. So my other question is: Why are some strains clone-only?

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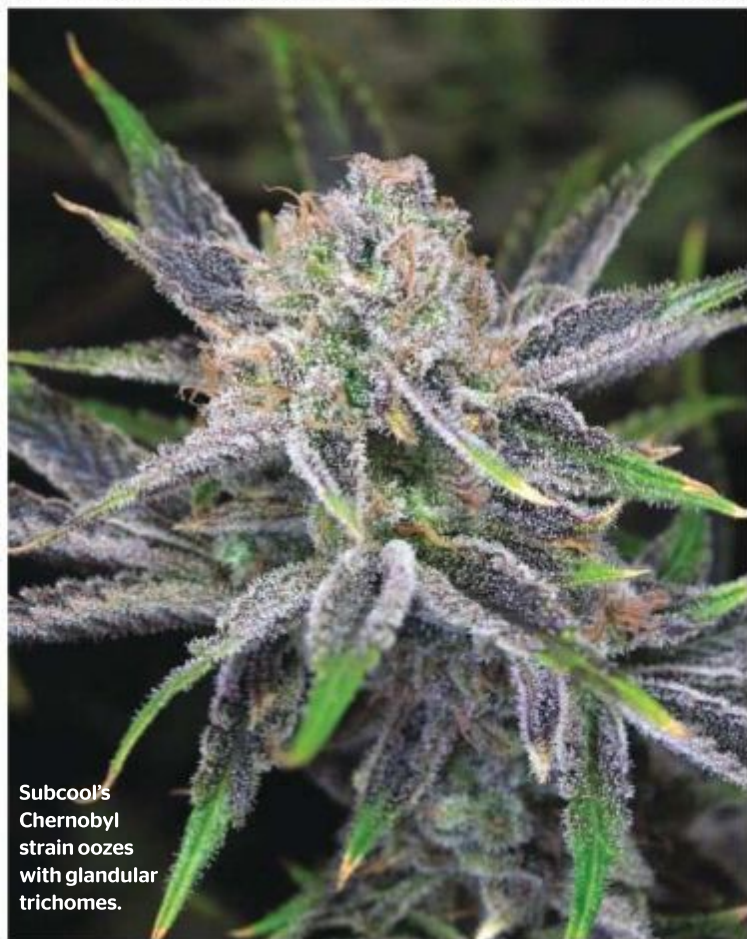
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Dear Adam,
Thanks for the kind words—I'll be sure to pass them on to my colleague Nico Escondido, who wrote the story and did the research on all of the lab tests. Some strains are clone-only because the male versions do not exist. They may have popped out of a bagseed or been the result of a particular female phenotype. Without a reliable male, any crosses made with that plant will reflect only half of the desired genetics. Many breeders are working hard to backcross and create seed versions of clone-only varieties, but it's hard work and takes several generations of meticulous crossing and selection.

SUBJECT: **One Light**

FROM: **TDJ**

🌱 If I'm growing in stealth mode (one plant in a closet), can I use the same light for seedlings, vegging and flowering? If so, what's your recommended wattage? Thanks and grow on!

Dear TDJ,
If you're using only one light for all stages of growth, I'd recommend a medium-wattage high-intensity discharge (HID) light. Your best bet is either a 400-watt high-pressure sodium (HPS) or metal halide (MH) bulb-and-ballast setup. Growers typically use an MH for seedlings and vegetative growth and an HPS for flowering, but either one can accomplish both tasks without too many setbacks.

Honestly, if you have to use only one, I'd go with a 400- or 600-watt MH light, as it will keep your plants short and stocky early on in life and can create fully formed flowers as well. 🌱

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You've said marijuana has no impact on creativity. Then why do I know so many creative marijuana users?

Leon

Hi Leon, Marijuana use and creativity are both correlated with an important personality characteristic: openness to experience. People who are open to experience embrace unusual ideas, passionate feelings, new adventures and anything unconventional. Doesn't that sound like every creative person (and marijuana user) you know? However, marijuana use doesn't appear to *lead* to creativity, at least as far as the current lab studies show.

I know that marijuana can help pain, but I don't understand why.

JP

Hi JP, Pain and other subjective responses are always a complicated issue. In a nutshell, THC and other cannabinoids inhibit the activity of one specific type of serotonin receptor (5HT3) in the body. This serotonin receptor increases a person's perception of both pain and nausea, so inhibiting it a bit can be a very good thing.

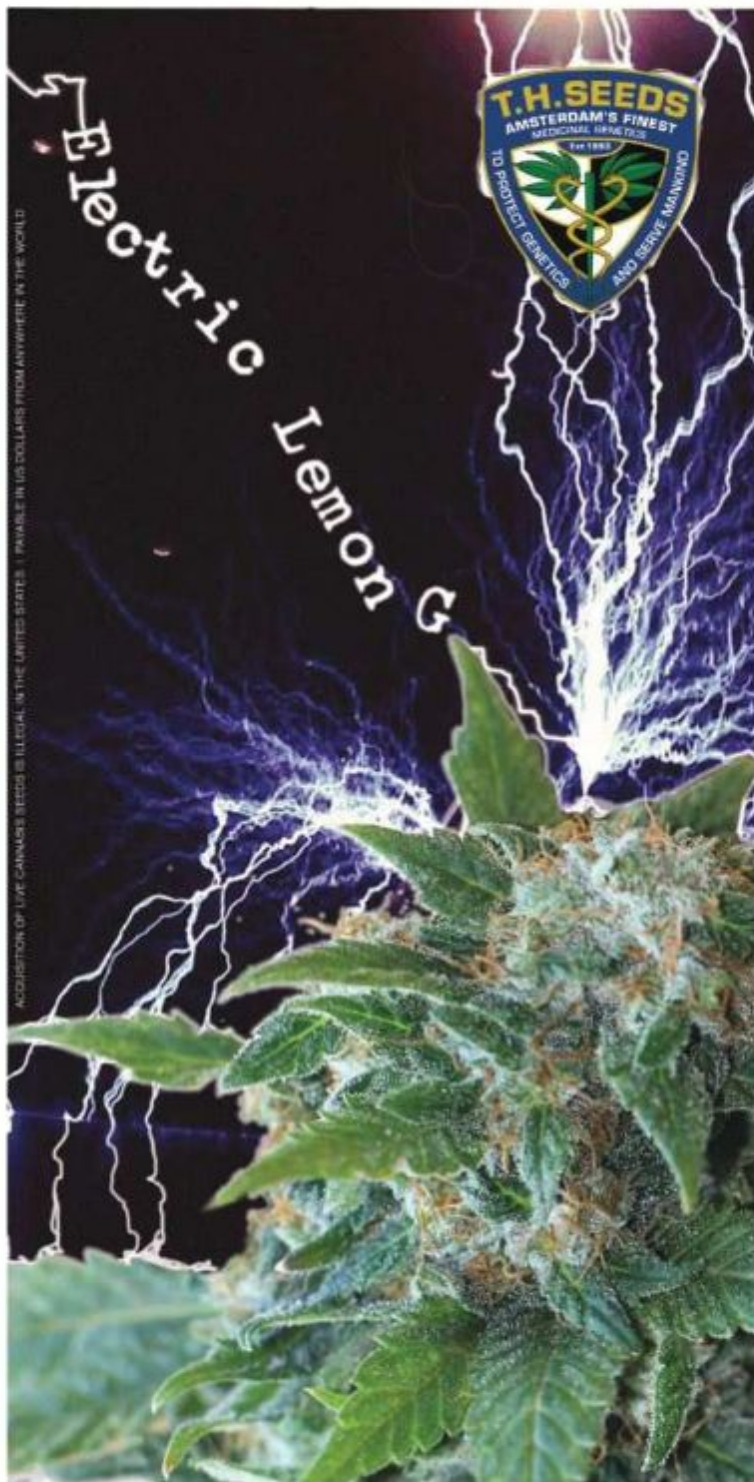
What's the most harmful thing for a pregnant mother to use: alcohol, tobacco, coffee or ganja?

Ruby D.

Hi Ruby, I'm getting a ton of email related to pregnancy, so it looks like the HT community is growing. In terms of the research, there is at least one study out there suggesting something bad for each of



these. Alcohol, especially at high doses, is clearly the source of fetal alcohol syndrome. Tobacco use has consistently led to lower birth weights and babies with smaller heads and brains. Some studies say caffeine makes for smaller babies, but those studies are suspect, since women who drink a lot of caffeine during pregnancy often are cigarette smokers. Cannabis use doesn't appear to cause low birth weight, but it does raise similar concerns. As I noted in my June '12 column, "a new study out of Australia examined almost 25,000 births: After the researchers controlled for all the usual socioeconomic correlates, they found that moms who used cannabis during pregnancy had babies who averaged 13 ounces lighter and a half-inch shorter, and were also twice as likely to end up in the neonatal intensive care unit. None of these effects is huge, but at the same time—and although plenty of folks won't agree—I do have genuine concerns about regular cannabis use during pregnancy." ✨



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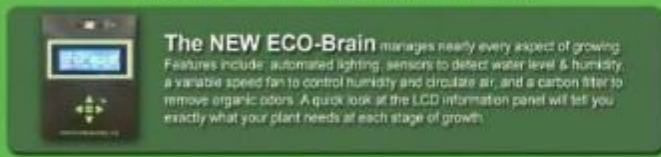
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The Dennis Hill Story

More evidence that cannabis helps treat cancer.

AMONG THE DOZENS of people now claiming to have experienced a cancer cure via the Rick Simpson method, Dennis Hill certainly stands out. In addition to getting a Ph.D. in biochemistry, Hill spent six years studying with the Sufis (the mystical school of Islam), five years with the Buddhists and 25 years with Swami Gurumayi Chidvilasananda, head of the Tantric path of Siddha Yoga. Along the way, he's learned that "the final state of meditation in all these paths ... is the same."

After being diagnosed with Stage III prostate adenocarcinoma, Hill felt a tremendous sense of betrayal. Yoga, meditation and a karmically correct diet should have protected him, he felt, though he also knew that some cancers are most likely genetic in origin. And since he'd spent 10 years studying cancer at a major university hospital, he was well aware of the dangers of the customary cancer treatments. So he decided to give the Rick Simpson method a try before jumping into radiation and chemotherapy.

Rick Simpson is a name familiar to many *High Times* readers: He was a hospital maintenance worker in Canada when he discovered the seemingly miraculous anti-cancer effects of cannabis firsthand. Starting out by treating skin cancers topically with hash oil, Simpson eventually discovered that consuming 60 grams of oil within three months cleared the cancers in nearly 80 percent of the people he treated. After the Canadian authorities realized what Simpson was doing, he was charged with illegal drug distribution and now lives in exile.

Despite the controversy surrounding Simpson's method, Hill was thrilled to discover how well it worked for him. "The cannabis cure has been a total non-event," he said. "No doctors, no hospital, no pain, no chemo, no radiation, no surgery, no life disruption, never missed a day from work or play, no death, no grieving relatives." And, as an added bonus, the total cost for his cure "was \$650 for the cannabis-oil extract from my local dispensary." (Hill lives in California.) Had he taken the other path, his 15 percent co-pay would have left him with a bill of around \$75,000.



"Doctors are in bondage to the pharmaceutical industry, which prefers to have cancer patients shoveling money at them."

The story of Hill's miracle cure is detailed

and can be seen by viewing the video below. After healing himself, he devoted a great deal of time to researching exactly how cannabis protects the body from disease, and his revelations on the molecular effects of cannabis are well worth reading.

I recently asked him why the cancer-fighting properties of marijuana remain so obscure, even in the medical community; most doctors have never even heard of Rick Simpson, much less his discoveries. "There are two reasons I can think of," Hill replied. "Doctors are in bondage to the pharmaceutical industry, which prefers to have cancer patients shoveling money at them. And doctors are afraid of deviating from the norm; thus, patients also follow this trend out of fear. Patients avoid the cannabis cure because

of the long and scary stigma of dreaded 'street drugs.' As long as the AMA and the government carry on the fear about this stigma, we will have to be creative about curing our cancer. We know that trying to educate those who don't want educating is a fool's errand." ✨

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Stoner Stand-Up

Attempting to write and perform your own cannabis comedy set is no laughing matter.

LIKE YE COURT jesters of olde, comedians have been granted a license by society to do what few others can: speak the unvarnished truth (couched in fart jokes though it may be) with relative impunity. I've always admired standup philosophers like George Carlin, Lenny Bruce, Bill Hicks and Richard Pryor—men with both the brains and the balls to force us all to look at the ugliest parts of

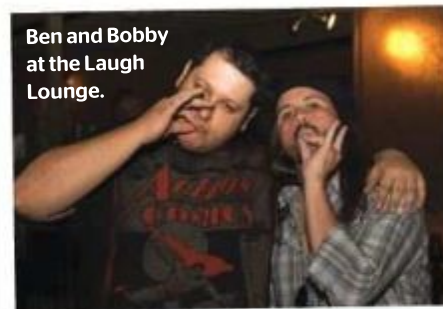
ourselves and laugh. I'd often pondered taking a stab at it myself, but never knew if I'd have the nerve. That is, until last year, when my comedian buddy Ben Vitoff made me put my mojo where my mouth is by offering me a five-minute slot in his standup showcase.

Ben is one of the funniest dudes I've ever known. My wife April first met him in 1998 at the Trails headshop in their hometown of Phoenix, where the two worked together and became good friends. Ben moved to Chicago in 2000 and studied improv at the illustrious Second City comedy school. Since returning to Arizona in 2006, he'd been honing his art on the circuit, eventually landing a gig booking and hosting his own comedy showcase at Baja Tilly's Laugh Lounge in Tempe.

Ben's comedy is pretty raw and raunchy, but in a very lovable sort of way. No matter how offensive or obnoxious his jokes get, he never seems to turn the audience against him. Most of his material is about getting drunk, getting laid, getting pissed off and, of course, getting stoned. "Arizona is a confusing place these days," he told the audience as he opened the show. "We're now a medical marijuana state, which means that you can't get busted for being stoned—but you can get busted for being Mexican."

Naturally, I planned to rely pretty heavily on weed humor as well, but I didn't want to come across as just another typical "stoner comic" making clichéd jokes about how dysfunctional

and hungry I got when I was high. Instead, I decided to focus my brief set on my experiences working at the magazine. Here are a few highlights:



Ben and Bobby at the Laugh Lounge.

▶ "It's a trip working at *High Times*, it really is. Of course, it has some drawbacks ... like, for me, memory loss is an occupational hazard."

▶ "You know what some guy said to me last week? 'If pot becomes legal, *High*

Times will probably go out of business.' And I'm like, 'Huh? Dude—we're the McDonald's of marijuana! The Coca-Cola of cannabis! The Walmart of weed! If pot were legal, we'd have a fuckin' game show on network TV: 'Good evening, ladies and gentlemen, and welcome to another edition of *The Bong Show*—where stoners compete for the ultimate stash and prizes!'"

▶ "But *High Times* will never go out of business. You know why? Because stoners love looking at pictures of weed! They drool over our centerfold like it was the hottest piece of ass they'd ever seen. We've had porn stars on our cover, and believe it or not, we sold *less copies* of those than the issues with a plant on the cover! We're porn for potheads, that's what we are."

▶ "Talk about true love ... I met my wife at the Cannabis Cup! I love Amsterdam—I've been there so many times that I have my own lane at customs. It's true: My passport's been passed around more times than a Tijuana hooker."

Okay, so I didn't exactly have them rolling in the aisles (well, rolling *joints*, maybe). But I did get a few laughs, and frankly, that's all I was hoping for. I have neither the intellect nor the intensity of the late, great George Carlin, but at least I had the *cojones* to get up there and give it a shot—and thanks to Ben, I had the opportunity as well. To repay the favor, I invited him to Austin to be my co-host for the 10th Annual Doobie Awards this March. After all, one good burn deserves another. ✨



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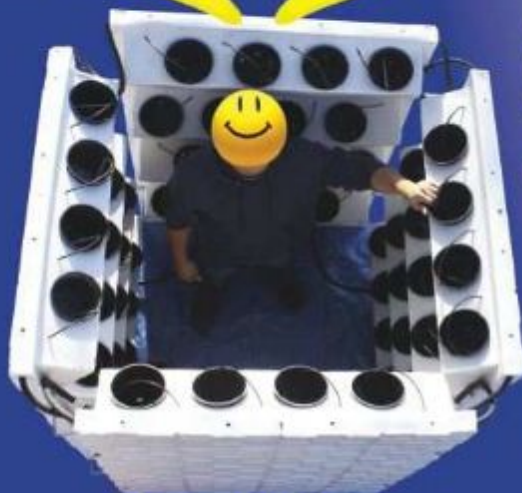
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The Final Days

NORML's next annual conference will focus on the end of cannabis prohibition. Let the celebrations begin!

Allen St. Pierre is the executive director of NORML. Visit norml.org.

MAKE SURE TO attend and bear witness to NORML's 41st annual national conference, scheduled from October 4th to 6th in Los Angeles.

Why? Because you'll be participating in one of the last pro-legalization conferences in America before the sacred herb is finally made legal, almost 75 years after it was demonized by prohibitionists in the government.

Sooner rather than later, the citizens of one or more states are going to vote directly to put an end to cannabis prohibition and replace it with more sensible public policies that resemble today's regulations on alcohol and tobacco use.

This year alone, citizens in Colorado, Montana and Washington will have a chance to challenge the federal government's continuous obstruction of cannabis law reform by voting for legalization, while citizens in Massachusetts are expected to pass a medical cannabis initiative with an estimated 60 percent support (and possibly more).

Fourteen states have decriminalized cannabis possession, and 16 states and the District of Columbia have established legal protections for qualifying medical patients. More than 100 million Americans live in states or municipalities that have sought an alternative to the "reefer madness" that the federal government continues to impose. If Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis's famous statement is true and the states really are the



Los Angeles will host the annual NORML bash.

"laboratories of democracy," then it's just a matter of time before the federal policy of cannabis prohibition is forced into retreat on a number of fronts.

There's no other event in the country that is more central and significant to cannabis law reform than NORML's annual conference. These annual events are always fun, informative and a great place to network. The cannabis law reform movement's best and brightest minds will convene there to make presentations on important topics concerning all things marijuana, from legal issues to the latest medical research.

The conference will also feature a gear and activism expo as well as numerous social events—including the *High Times*

Cannabis Activist Awards and the Not-So-Silent Art Auction.

This year's conference will be held in the *über*-cannabis-friendly city of Los Angeles. So here's your chance to become part of this ever-growing public advocacy effort and help put an end to the arrest, prosecution and incarceration of thousands of cannabis consumers. The more voices that join this chorus of protest, the quicker we'll be able to experience what has been denied to us for so long: the guarantees of freedom that are part of our birthright as Americans. ✨

For information on the 2012 NORML National Conference, visit norml.org or call 202-483-5500.

FREEDOM FIGHTER

A Change of Habit

Cheyenne Weldon is cast in a leading role.

Activism is ignited in different ways. Cheyenne Weldon came to the marijuana movement later in her life. She didn't even partake until she was in her mid-30s. "For 20 years," she says, "alcohol was my chosen vice and led to many poor decisions and regrets. Leaving that lifestyle, aside from the

occasional drink, has changed my life for the positive in countless ways."

Around this time, Cheyenne moved from her home state of Louisiana to Austin, TX. Once there, she began to hear about a group working to change marijuana laws, Texas NORML; she immediately volunteered to help the organization with their events and outreach.



After proving her worth, Cheyenne was elected to the Texas NORML Board of Directors and has served as their Secretary since 2009. In 2010, she attended the National NORML

Conference in Portland where she met many women from the newly formed NORML Women's Alliance. Cheyenne was instantly drawn to their message. She initially helped

the Women's Alliance with their efforts in the Southwest Region, but in 2011 was promoted to the position of outreach coordinator. She now serves as one of the primary points of contact for women looking to get involved in marijuana reform around the country.

"We have the momentum and it is only a matter of time," says Cheyenne. "The snowball effect we've seen will only continue."

by Erik Altieri, NORML communications coordinator



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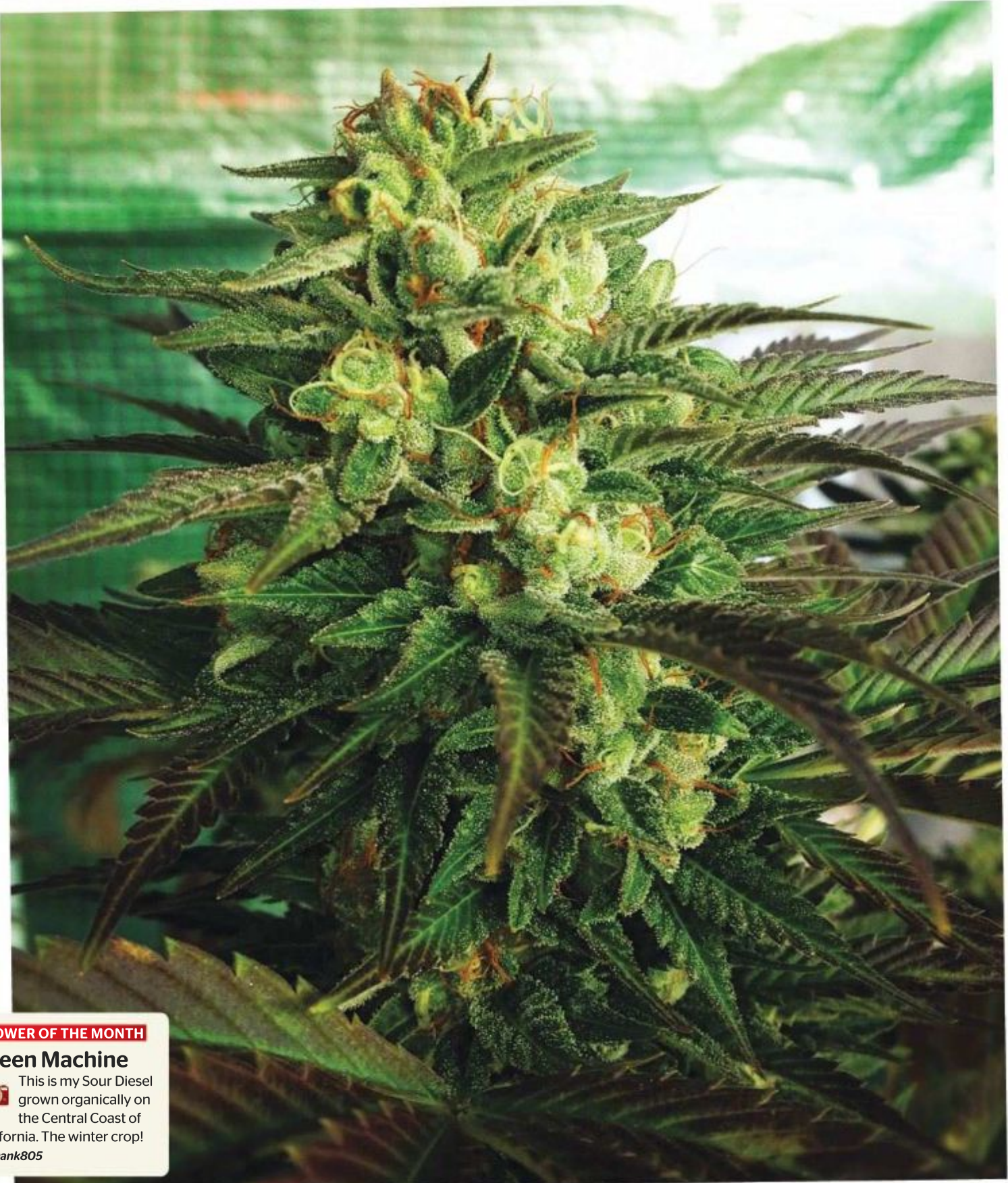




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Dimensions: 24" T (Upgradeable to 36" T) x 16" W x 9.5" D

Price: \$395

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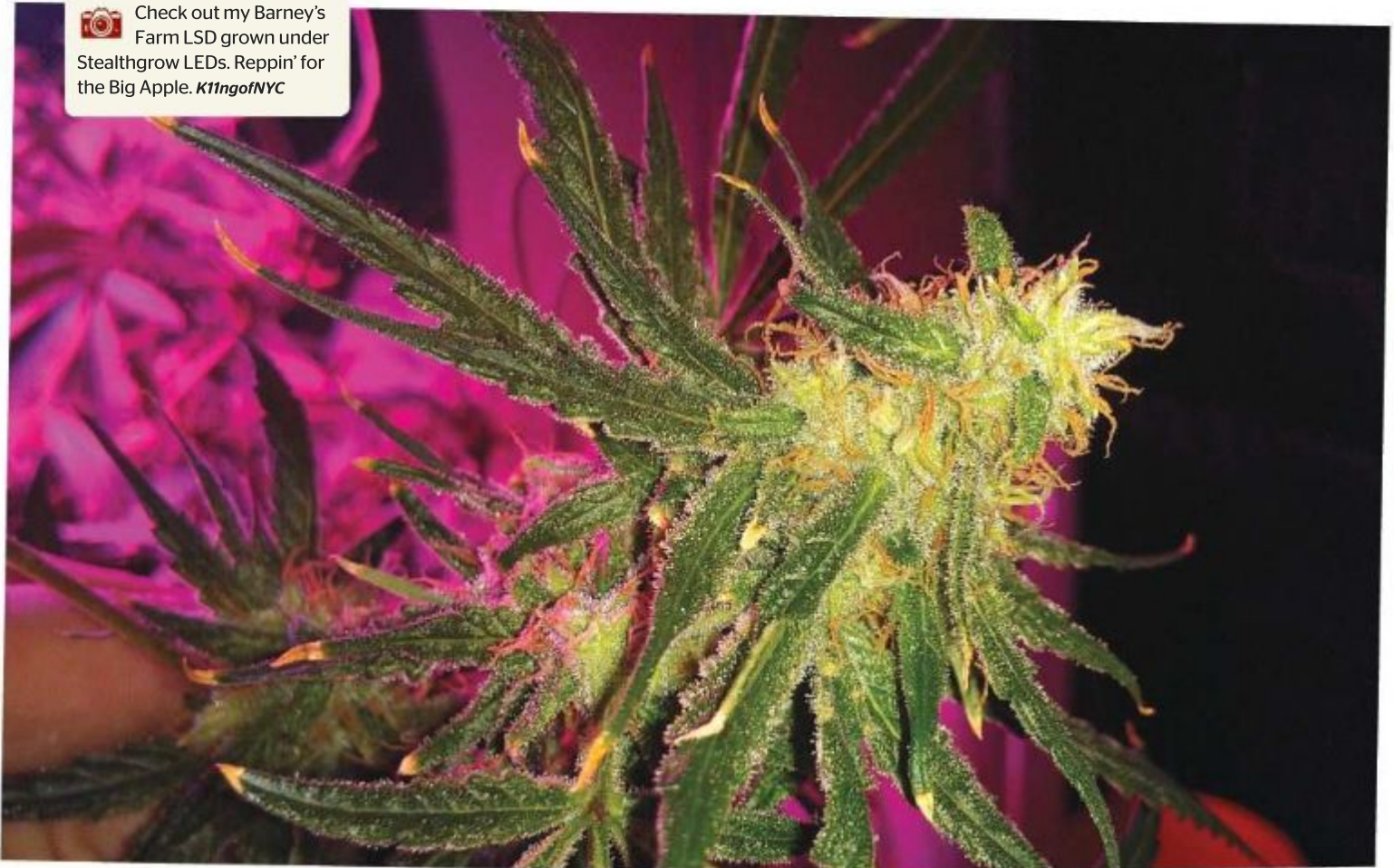
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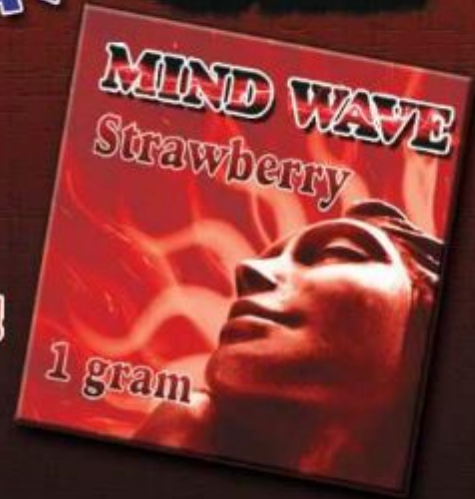
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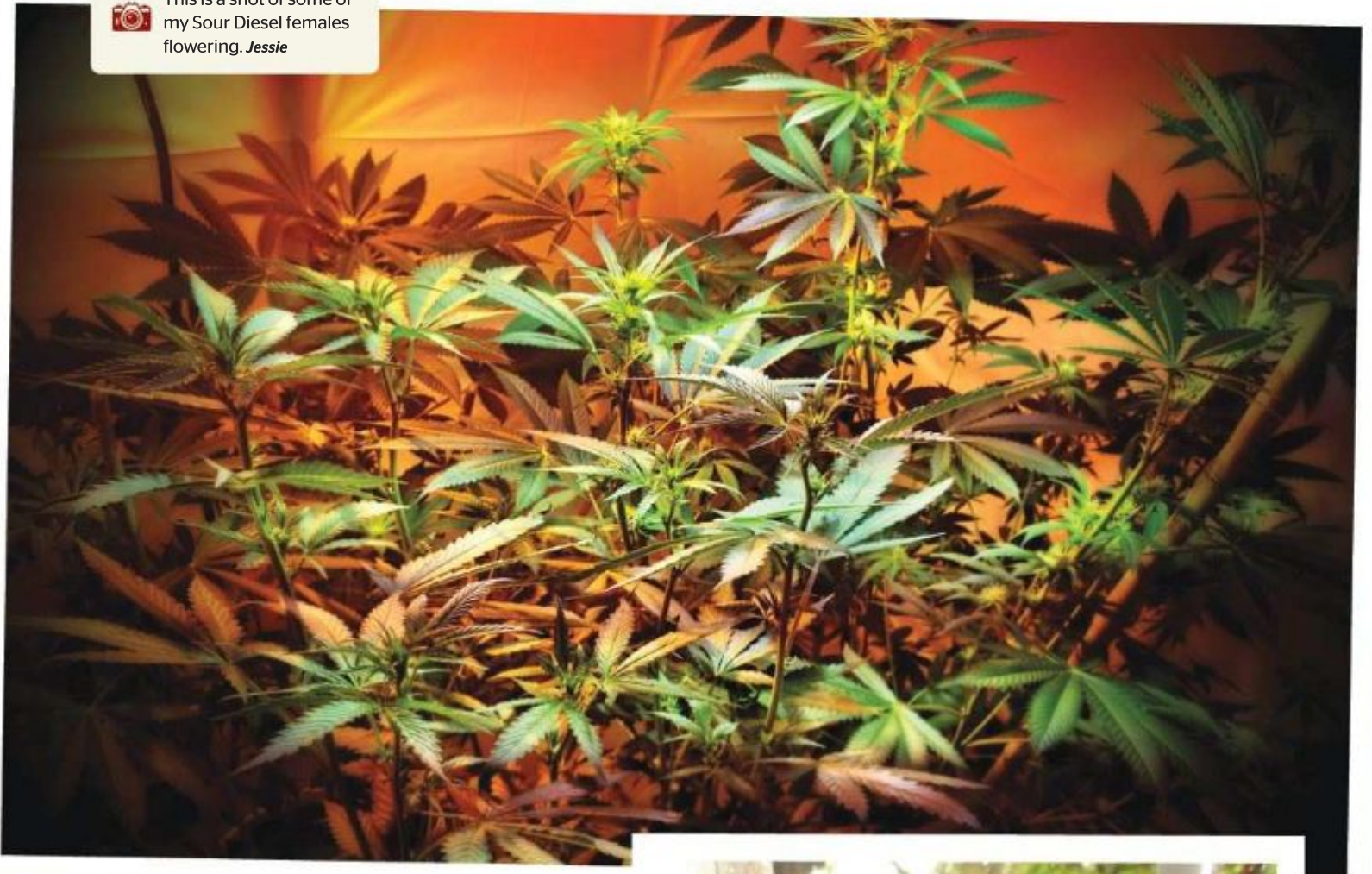


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GARDEN OF THE MONTH


Fish Eye Fly

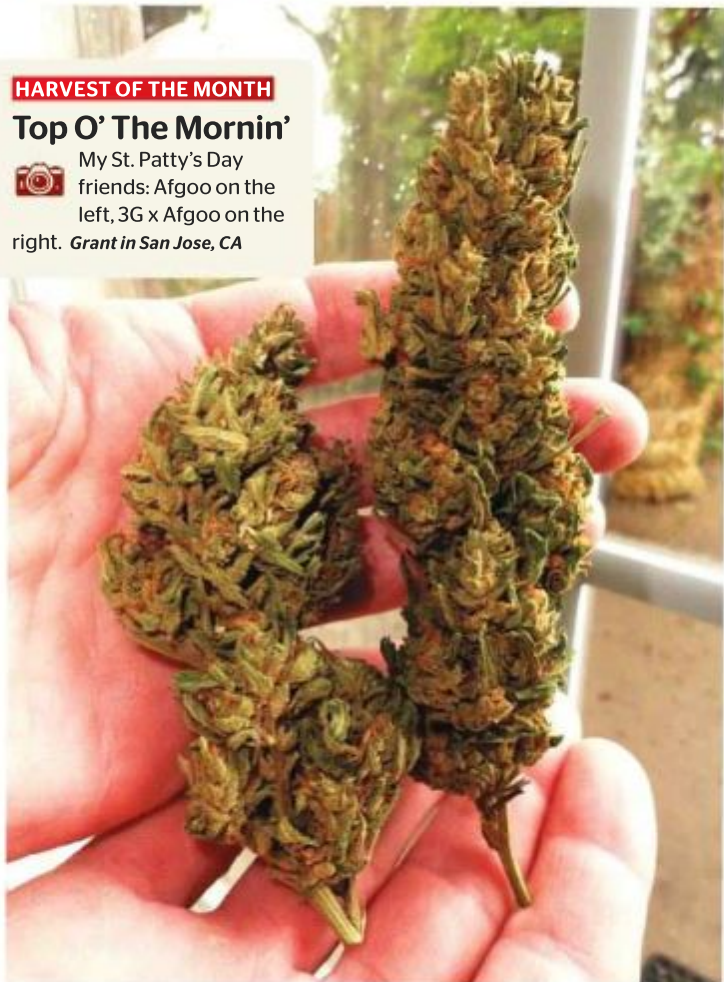
 This is a shot of some of my Sour Diesel females flowering. *Jessie*



HARVEST OF THE MONTH


Top O' The Mornin'

 My St. Patty's Day friends: Afgoo on the left, 3G x Afgoo on the right. *Grant in San Jose, CA*



STONER OF THE MONTH

Root Beard

 Here's a pic of just one of my lusty ladies. *The Killab*



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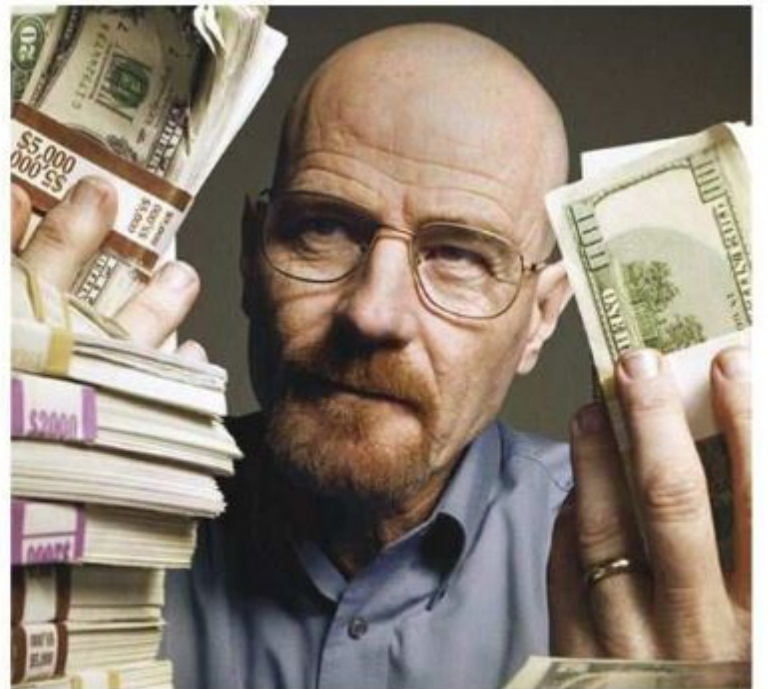
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Grow Gear of the Year!

High Times’ cultivation department profiles the best in pot-growing tools and technology in our 14th Annual STASH Awards (Significant Technological Achievements in Secretive Horticulture).

High in the Rockies

We hit the Mile-High City for the 2nd Annual *High Times* Medical Cannabis Cup in Colorado. Check out the award-winning strains of the Rocky Mountain State.

Buds of the Bayou

Vinnie Kaz, author of *Guerilla Growing Trade Secrets*, reveals his tips and techniques for successful growing in the marshes, bogs and wetland swamps where most fear to tread.

The Art of War

As the casualty figures in their own country’s War on Drugs hurtle toward 50,000, a group in Culiacán, Mexico, transforms brutal images and bloody artifacts into art.

What Is Tissue Culture?

Contributor Greg Green breaks down the basic principles of cell growth involved in successful tissue culture and shows how huge yields can be gained from genetically uniform, disease-free plants and gardens.

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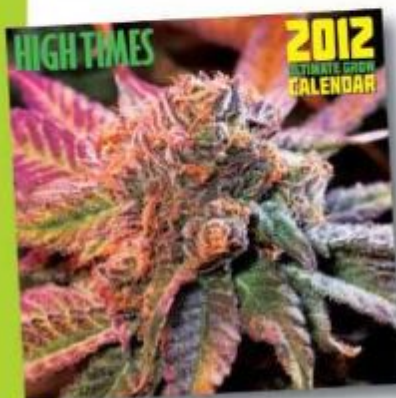
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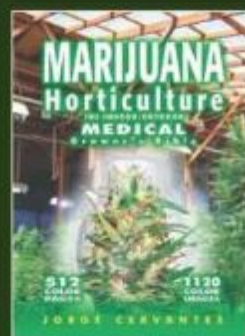


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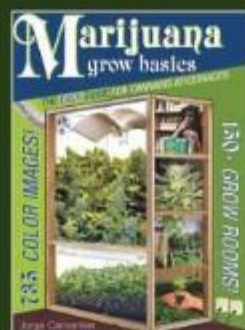
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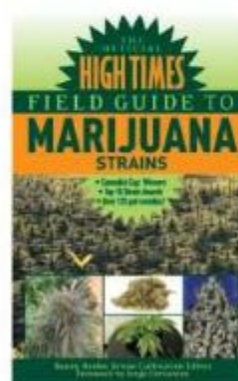


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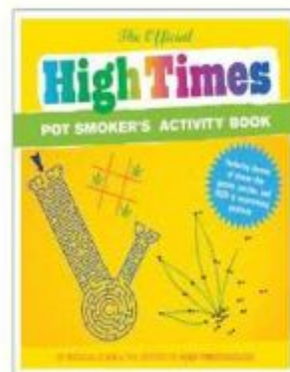
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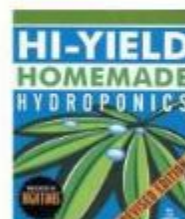
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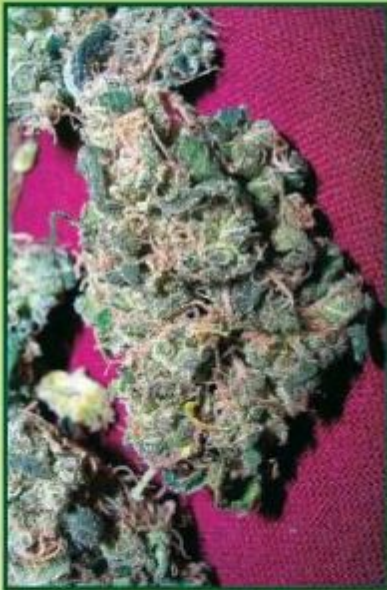


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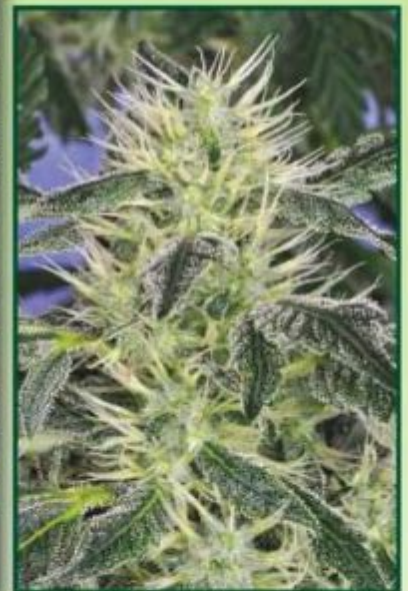
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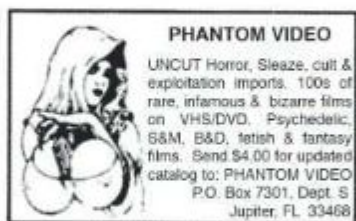
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3 **MIGHTY HIGH**
WEEDWATCH.com
Awesome upcoming forum for the casual stoner to serious grower and activist.

4 **I Love you, Cindy**

5 **POT FOR PTSD**

6 **"Smokin Tokin" and the new album "The HASH DIARIES" Doper Stoner CD!**
I LOVE YOU, SUSAN!
(But your sister is better in bed)

7 **WAKE UP! Cannabis Cures Cancer**
phoenixtears.ca/

8 **Now that the DEA has denied meds in CA, they're too chicken to kick cartels out of our forests! Help us general AQUINO, the NSA is our only hope.**

9 **WANT TO END DRUG VIOLENCE FOREVER? OUTLAW MONEY**

10 **Follow your HEART**
Ezy

11 **I followed the 12 steps & they led me to weed**

12 **my new BOB MARLEY BONG**

13 **THANK YOU TROOPS! FUCK YOU CONGRESS!**

14 **RICHARD PRYOR: LIVE IN CONCERT**

15 **It's 4:20, who's my boy?**

16 **Jessica Katarina's Only Smokin' Shorty (8)**

17 **I'm a tree hugging, man and woman loving, caring, feminist Deadhead black belt: Rush Limbaugh is a fat tough talking drug addict who hates women, and probably hasn't gotten laid in a year.** - Petronius

18 **FREE MARC EMERY WE HAVE A WORLD TO CHANGE!** - (17-20)

19 **THE Wisdom of Karate is how not to get hit**

20 **DOGS THINK THEY'RE HUMAN... CATS THINK THEY'RE god!**

21 **POKE SMOT**

22 **SUPPORT OCCUPIER (tucson) STONED!**

23 **Free Weed**

24 **8:40 TWICE AS GOOD AS 4:20**

25 **Green Smoke**

26 **Taylor ... It's been a long strange trip SMOKE SOUNDS like the best**

27 **ALL MEN SHOULD READ ROMANCE NOVELS! You can learn a lot from the heroes!**

28 **"We were all up in that shit like a muthafucker: It's cleaner than a broke dick dog." - Miles Davis**

29 **MOVIES = My Friday Nite**

30 **Legalize TRE BAGS only \$3.00 yo!!**

31 **Politicians GIVE FAKE BOOBS A BAD NAME!**

32 **IF crime doesn't pay, does that mean my job is a crime?**

33 **I WAS TRYING TO FIND MYSELF UNTIL I FORGOT WHAT I WAS LOOKING FOR, AND JUST SMOKED ANOTHER JOINT INSTEAD.**

What would you like to see on the Pot 40? Write your ideas on this ballot and mail to:

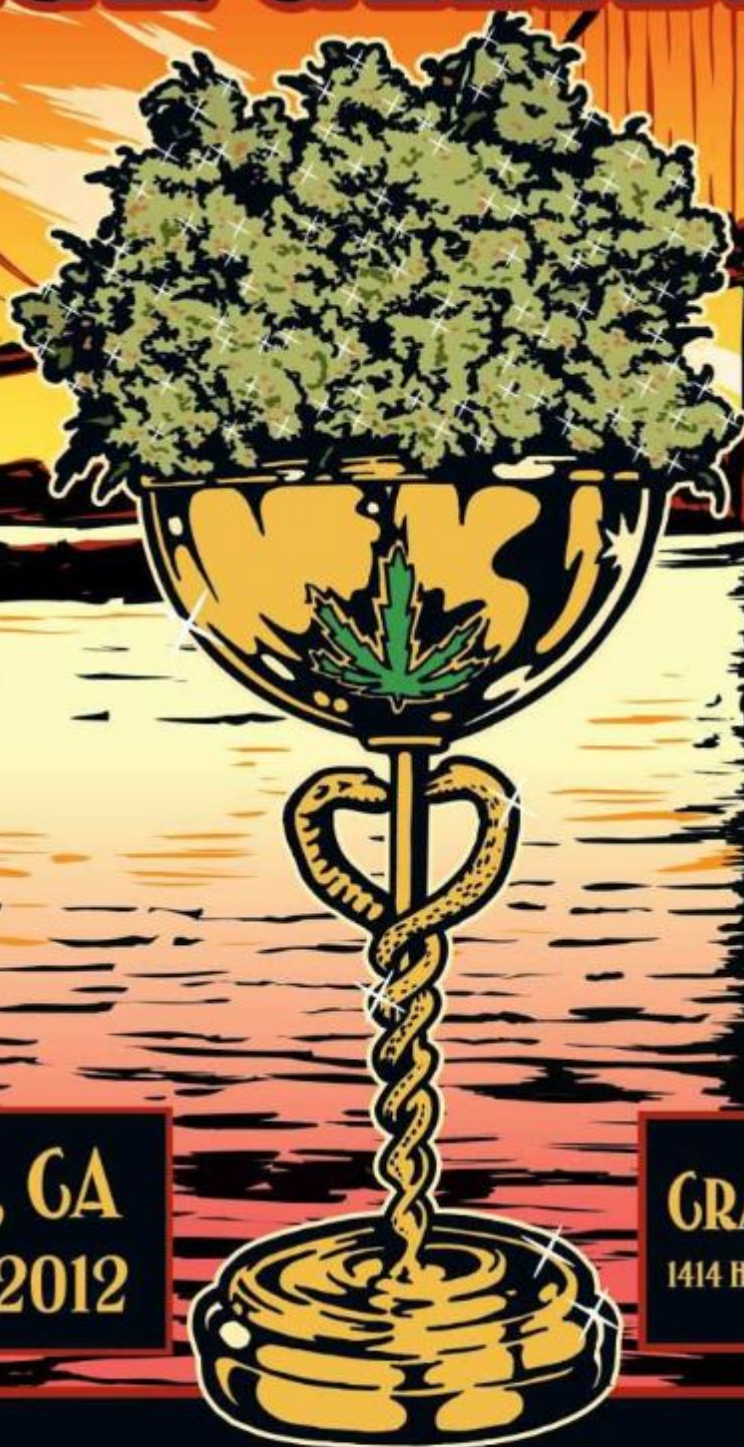
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